

**FBIS****DAILY REPORT  
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CONTINUED

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## SOVIET UNION

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## NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY DELEGATIONS HOLD 27 FEB MEETING

LD271356Y Moscow TASS in English 1340 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 27 TASS--A meeting of the delegations of the USSR, USA and Great Britain took place here today at the talks held for the purpose of working out a treaty on general and complete banning of nuclear weapon tests.

## SOVIET DELEGATION LEAVES FOR GENEVA DISARMAMENT MEETING

LD250939Y Moscow TASS in English 0832 25 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpt] Moscow, February 25, TASS--A delegation of Soviet public today left for Geneva for participation in the international conference of non-governmental organizations on disarmament, to be held on February 27-March 2.

## Meeting Opens

LD271110Y Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 27 TASS--An international conference of non-governmental organisations for disarmament has opened in the Geneva Palace of Nations today. It is to discuss issues corresponding to the agenda of the special session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament to be held in May-June this year; programme of actions for disarmament; the role of public, the role of the United Nations Organisation in disarmament and the international disarmament mechanism, including the convocation of a world disarmament conference. The present conference is one of the widest forums of public forces, preceding the special session of the U.N. General Assembly on disarmament. It is called upon to contribute to its success.

## BOLSHAKOV: MUCH OF ORIGINAL MOMENTUM OF SALT LOST

LD251144Y Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] The 25th congress of the Soviet Communist party opened in Moscow 2 years ago today. The congress launched a program of continued action for peace, and a major element of this program is action for ending the arms race and for disarmament. Our observer Vladimir Bolshakov comments: One should recall that when the Carter administration came to power in the United States, the Soviet Union lost no time in urging the American side to continue talks on SALT-II. The American side unfortunately failed to take a constructive stand on this problem and the talks seem to have lost much of the original momentum. The Americans, for example, advanced some new proposals which could not be reconciled with the well-known Soviet-American Vladivostok accord of 1974 and which really aimed at gaining one-sided advantages for the American side. It took time and lots of effort to change that American approach in favor of a more sober and realistic attitude to this problem. And this was done at the Soviet-American meetings in Moscow in March of 1977 and also at meetings in Geneva and in Washington. One must admit, however, that efforts to produce mutually acceptable formulas on different aspects of disarmament are running into stubborn opposition from some quarters in the United States and other NATO countries which favor continued military preparations on a growing scale.

## NEW SALT STAGE CAN BEGIN AFTER SALT-II ACCORDS CONCLUDED

LD280813Y Tallin SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 21 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Article by NOVOSTI political observer Svyatoslav Kozlov: "Salt II: For the Speediest Conclusion of an Agreement"]

[Text] The talks taking place between the USSR and the United States on limiting strategic offensive arms--SALT-II--are attracting the close attention of not only the Soviet and U.S. public but also the broadest world public. Many people understand that the solution of the most urgent and burning task of the present day--ending the arms race and reducing the threat of nuclear war--largely depends on the successful outcome of this dialog.

For a number of years while the talks have been under way, a considerable effort has been made to make them productive. Certain useful results have already been achieved in the form of current agreements.

However, there has obviously been a delay over formulating a new long-term agreement, the foundations for which were created in Vladivostok in 1974. And this is by no means the fault of the Soviet Union.

The trouble is that, in parallel with the SALT talks, a campaign against them is continuing in the United States.

The opponents of an agreement grew particularly active when prospects for concluding one became discernible.

The editorial article in PRAVDA of 11 February spoke of the wreckers and their false arguments. It set forth once again the principled and constructive position of the USSR. And it must be said frankly that the comparison does not favor Washington.

There are circles in the United States openly opposed to any agreements with the Soviet Union on strategic arms limitation.

Who are they? They are figures among retired high-ranking military men, "specialists" on questions of strategy (anti-Soviet, of course), organizations such as the so-called "Committee on the Present Danger," and certain press organs that are direct advocates for the Pentagon and the military-industrial complex. They all call for an arms buildup and for insuring military superiority over the USSR.

It would be possible to pity them, as people pity the hopelessly insane, if their obsession were not so dangerous for mankind. The groundlessness of reckoning that the United States could insure its military superiority over the USSR has long been clear to everyone but them. A state of military strategic balance now exists between both states, and efforts to change this situation are quite hopeless.

But at the same time these attempts are dangerous, for they could lead to a new start of the arms race and bring the threat of a nuclear-missile conflict nearer, with all the consequences ensuing therefrom, including consequences for the United States itself.

The opponents of detente have a primitive explanation for their excessive "concern" for strengthening U.S. security: There is a Soviet military threat.

But in order to have grounds for suspecting that hostile intentions exist, it is necessary to study the activities of that state over a lengthy period. It will then become clear that the USSR, for example, has decisively refuted the absurd and malicious fabrications about its military claims by means of its entire policy over the 6 decades of its existence. The Soviet Union threatens no one, has no intention of attacking anyone and does not seek military superiority over the United States.

As L. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, declared: "The Soviet Union's defense potential must be sufficient to insure that no one risks disrupting our peaceful life. Not a course of superiority in arms, but one of reducing them and easing military confrontation--this is our policy."

PRAVDA rightly points out, therefore, that those who irresponsibly expatiate about the "Soviet threat" pretend that such specific Soviet proposals as the conclusion of a world treaty on the nonuse of force; an agreement whereby the countries that participated in the all-European conference renounce first use of nuclear weapons; an agreement on ending the further production of all types of nuclear weapons and many others, do not exist.

The adverse reaction from the United States and other NATO countries to these Soviet proposals really demonstrates their reluctance to embark on the path of insuring lasting peace. This is also indicated by the steadily growing military budgets of these countries, their arms buildup and their hostile shows of military strength.

But in addition to overt opponents of the SALT-II agreement, there are also figures in the United States who do not speak out directly against the agreement, but who in fact are trying their best to throw more and more obstacles in the way of completing it under the pretext of "improving" it.

And we do not yet know which of them are more harmful.

Those who wish to "amend" the agreement do not, for example, like the fact that both sides' positions on the question of cruise missiles have been brought closer together. They would like to see to it that the United States has the right to install air-to-surface missiles not only on heavy bombers, the numbers of which are to be limited, but also on any aircraft. But this would make limitation an empty fiction--which is just what they are seeking.

These figures would also like to exclude from limitation sea-and land-based cruise missiles, which can be deployed near the USSR's borders, including on the territories of the U.S. allies.

"This question," PRAVDA writes, "is part of the general problem that the agreement being formulated must totally exclude the possibility of strategic arms being passed on to third countries and its evasion through the instrumentality of third countries. The sides must adopt unambiguous pledges on this score. Otherwise, the agreement will have no viability."

Attempts to use the issue of monitoring observance of the agreement in order to delay it are equally improper. As all previous international agreements have shown, no one dares rebuke the USSR with the charge of not observing its pledges strictly and exactly. Of course, this will continue to be so. And the Soviet Union expects the same of its partner.

Opponents of the agreement are trying to present the question of new types of strategic arms as though the U.S. side is making "radical" proposals whereas the USSR is not ready for this.

Of course, it is simplest of all to offer your partner at the talks plainly unacceptable solutions and then make an outcry about his "intractability." That was what the United States did in 1977. And now the agreement's opponents are once again urging the United States to adopt the same unworthy method. Here they deliberately ignore the really constructive proposals submitted by the Soviet Union during the talks--proposals for a mutual renunciation of creating and deploying new types and systems of strategic weapons.

To sum up what I have said and briefly set out the USSR's attitude toward the SALT-II talks, the following may be said:

The Soviet Union confirms its serious interest in the talks and intends to do everything in its power to see that they are crowned with success. "We have no lack of readiness to bring these talks to a successful conclusion," L.I. Brezhnev declared in his replies to the PRAVDA correspondent's questions. "In our opinion, the possibilities for this exist."

What is needed, above all, for the success of the matter is good will on the part of the other participant, as well as strict observance of the agreed principles of the equality and identical security of both sides and the inadmissibility of one-sided advantages.

In the interests of completing the agreement as soon as possible, it should not be burdened with unsubstantiated and new questions beyond those already agreed on. An understanding has already been reached between the sides that talks on more far-reaching measures in the sphere of limiting and reducing strategic arms will begin immediately after the conclusion of the agreement now in preparation.

Therefore, those who are trying to frustrate or prolong the conclusion of the SALT--II agreement are acting directly against the interests of the strengthening peace and security.

But the peoples want to believe that state wisdom will prevail and the chance of strengthening peace and curbing the arms race will not be missed.

GRIGORYEV REVIEWS ARMED FORCES, ARMS RACE, MIDEAST, CYPRUS

LD271341Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Yevgeniy Grigoryev international review: "The International Week"]

[Text] February is just about over now. Its last "full" week has been exceptionally eventful. The biggest events have borne the address "Moscow."

The press and public of foreign countries are analyzing and discussing animatedly the important statements on a number of vital problems of the contemporary international situation made by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in his speeches this week.

The celebration of the glorious 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces has found a worldwide response.

Talks have taken place in Moscow between the Soviet leaders and Hafiz al-Asad, general secretary of the Ba'th Party and president of Syria.

The Soviet draft of a neighborliness and cooperation treaty between the USSR and Japan has been published.

The Belgrade meeting is nearing its end.

The world's trouble spots--the Near East, the Horn of Africa, the south of the dark continent--have invariably been in the news. The dangerous incidents in Cyprus have caused much comment.

The day-to-day crisis of the capitalist world has been accompanied by a new currency and financial shock and by the manifestation of acute interimperialist contradictions.

#### Mighty Bastion of Peace

"Our party and our people have been, are and will be eternally loyal to the cause of peace," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev declared at the presentation to him of the "Order of Victory". "For us, defense of peace is defense of socialism and defense of the bright future of all mankind."

The Soviet Union is striving actively and purposefully to insure reliable, universal peace. Many of our country's foreign policy initiatives and specific constructive proposals are aimed at this. The strengthening of the country's defense capability is a particular and very important aspect of the peace effort of the land of the soviets.

The USSR Armed Forces are the reliable guard of our people's peaceful labor and the bastion of universal peace. It is for precisely this reason that the jubilee of the Soviet Army and Navy has been a major international event. It is truly impossible to find another instance where the birthday of armed forces has been celebrated in many other countries and widely marked throughout the world. It is precisely a matter of the character of socialist armies. The military machine of the capitalist states has always been and remains (you only have to recall the Pentagon's Vietnam adventure) an instrument of oppression and aggression. It is only under conditions of socialism that the army, for the first time in history, has become the defender of the people's interests and a mighty means of containing aggressive forces and preserving peace on earth. This noble role of the Soviet Armed Forces has been widely recognized by the peoples.

"The invincible might of the Soviet Armed Forces," it was noted at one of the foreign celebrations devoted to the glorious jubilee, "is the main stabilizing factor in international relations and the firmest guarantee of the prevention of another world war."

The people remember with gratitude the great feat of arms of the USSR and its armed forces in the rout of Hitlerite fascism and Japanese militarism and pay tribute to the heroism of the liberator soldiers. At the same time the response to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy vividly reflects both the tremendous trust invested by people of good will in the USSR's peace-loving foreign policy and the extremely high prestige of the CPSU and the Soviet state in the modern world.

The Czechoslovak people have also been celebrating a significant date in their history. It has been the 30th anniversary of the February victory which finally decided the question of Czechoslovakia's socialist path. The fraternal country's working people are rightly proud of their tremendous successes in every sphere of building the new society. They are making a great contribution to the great cause of strengthening the socialist community and world socialism's positions.

The fraternal countries' joint efforts aimed at insuring peace are of great importance. The Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Poland and the CSSR recently submitted a document on an all-embracing disarmament program for consideration by the disarmament committee in Geneva. Yet another portentous initiative has been displayed.

Socialism and peace are indivisible.

#### Acute Confrontation

The 25th CPSU Congress justifiably placed on the agenda of world politics the task of removing the threat of nuclear war, making detente irreversible and curbing the arms race. Specific Soviet proposals were elaborated in implementation of this task. They are now the object of practical consideration at various forums and talks. Disarmament questions are at the center of the attention of parties, social organizations and the broad masses of the people.

On 24 February the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium discussed the results of the trip by a delegation of Soviet parliamentarians to the United States at the invitation of that country's Congress. In particular, the question of the talks on limiting strategic offensive armaments was discussed. As is well known, it has been possible to achieve appreciable progress at these talks. At the same time it is clear that some people in the United States would like to hinder the course of these talks and prevent their successful completion.

As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted at the Presidium session, both the White House and the U.S. Congress have repeatedly been informed in various ways of the Soviet position. The latter is clear, consistent and definite. The Soviet Union advocates the speediest completion of the talks on the basis of the principles of equal security. After the signing of a new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty it will be possible to move on to the next stage. This would be a real turning point on the way to military detente. The USSR would like to hope that the responsible figures in the United States realize how much is at stake.

In this connection concern is often being voiced in the U.S. press. For instance, well-known public figure C. Yost warns in the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR that if an appropriate "agreement is not reached or is not ratified, this will not only lead to the unleashing of an even more dangerous and expensive arms race but will also undermine Soviet-American relations as a whole and threaten world peace." NEWSWEEK writes this week that "the obstacle to the new strategic arms limitation treaty will perhaps be the disagreements not between the United States and the USSR but between the Carter administration and Congress." In this instance it is the opponents of neighborly relaxation of international tension in general who are obviously meant by "Congress" (incidentally, in Congress there are also reasonable people and those who support limiting the arms race). The military-industrial complex, the Pentagon and certain other circles must be mentioned among these opponents.

It looks like these influential forces are not only continuing to prevent the successful completion of work on a strategic arms limitation agreement but also stimulating the buildup of material preparation for war on a global scale. With this in mind they are playing the NATO keyboard and compiling arms programs for various regions of the world.

This week supporters of the neutron bomb in West European countries launched sort of counteroffensive as if in response to a command. As is known, its apologists' plans encounter mass popular opposition there. Over 820,000 citizens have already come out against the neutron weapon in the Netherlands. And now the Dutch HET PAROOL reports that the NATO leaders are exerting "increasingly firm" pressure on West European governments, demanding their blessing for Washington's plans.

The neutron bomb issue is extremely serious. It is not merely that this new weapon of mass destruction is barbaric. The implementation of plans for its production and deployment in Europe, which are so attractive to bellicose circles in the United States, would substantially complicate the situation.

Nobody is surprised to see patent, blind militarists such as the leaders of the West German Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union [CDU/CSU] advocating the neutron bomb. They are still foolishly dreaming of "frightening" the Soviet Union. However, it is a fact that certain people of a different orientation are joining them, voluntarily or unvoluntarily, in approving this weapon.

Take for example the recent statement by British Prime Minister Callaghan. He assumed the unenviable honor of being the first West European statesman to come out most definitely in support of the neutron bomb, and he distorted Soviet policy in the bargain. Can this be called a demonstration of responsibility. It is a matter on which the fate of millions of people depend. The people have a right to expect a more balanced approach to such matters.

Certain people in the FRG then started to flirt with the neutron bomb, saying that it may contribute to progress at the talks on arms limitation questions. There is nothing more illogical than such throwbacks to the long-bankrupt "from a position of strength" policy. It is well known that attempts to gain one-sided advantages will never go unanswered. Therefore, any maneuvering over the neutron bomb is a dangerous exercise.

The Soviet proposal on mutual renunciation of the production of the neutron weapon is well known. There is only one alternative to renunciation of the production of this weapon--a new qualitative leap in the lethal arms race. It is impossible not to see this.

Speaking in Los Angeles the other day, U.S. Secretary of Defense H. Brown put forward something resembling a Pentagon doctrine for the Pacific Ocean and East Asia. It states that the United States intends to maintain fully its "military presence" there and, moreover, to "strengthen its already powerful forces in the area." As usual, Brown cited the "growing Soviet military potential" as a decoy. An increasingly frequent variation of the false demagoguery is the thesis that the USSR's defense potential "far outstrips purely defensive needs."

If you want to take that stance--and history can bear witness to this--there is far more reason for leveling this accusation at the NATO countries. However, the essence of Soviet military policy is well known--everything for effective defense, nothing more. The Soviet Union has never armed itself for the sake of it; it has never been and never will be an instigator of the arms race. Consistently and persistently, and more and more actively every year, it is seeking approaches to the solution of disarmament problems, right down to the most radical solution--general and total disarmament.

This is the command of the times, the command of reason.

#### The Near East

Soviet-Libyan and Soviet-Syrian joint communiques were published this week. The important documents sum up the results of official friendly visits and talks in Moscow. Naturally, aside from bilateral relations, these meetings paid special attention to the Near East situation.

In both the Arab world and other areas there is increasing acknowledgment of and respect for the Soviet Union's principled position on questions of a Near East settlement, a position which is not subject to fluctuations of circumstances. The people cherish and understand this clear and selfless policy; it is based on their interests. Washington's line of behind-the-scenes plots, feverish maneuvering and the safeguarding of its imperialist aims is a different thing altogether.

The bourgeois press is currently writing a lot about the alleged disagreements between the Carter administration and the Tel Aviv "hawks." But despite all these ins and outs, the fact remains that Washington is on the side of the aggressor, is giving it more and more billions worth of arms and is publicly and privately helping it stick stubbornly to its aggressive positions.

The so-called "shuttle diplomacy" has resumed in the Near East. Washington's special representative Atherton is scurrying between Cairo and Tel Aviv. The purpose of these trips is to promote the implementation of further separate deals between Egypt and Israel. However, nobody is blowing fanfares or predicting an easy, quick and general settlement. It is becoming increasingly clear, the New York TIMES comments, that "talks with only Egypt and Israel participating can have only limited results." People across the ocean would like to widen the circle of participants, but even this does not change the crux of the matter.

Life itself shows the danger to Arab interests of unprincipled political maneuvers in this explosive area. The situation poses of its own accord the question whether it is not time to put an end to the zigzagging and place the matter of a settlement back on a Geneva conference footing. This realistic path would undoubtedly correspond to the fundamental interests of the Near East peoples and the normalization of the international climate.

#### An Absolute Law

The Eastern Mediterranean is a fairly troubled area. The Cyprus problem remains unresolved. Therefore it is natural that the international public should have reacted with alarm and indignation to the introduction of additional outside elements to aggravate the Cyprus situation.

I refer to the arbitrary military operation ordered by Cairo at Larnaca International Airport. A detachment of Egyptian troops landed there. Their arbitrary armed action led to bloodshed.

Forgetting that not so long ago Cairo itself condemned similar adventures by Israel, the Egyptian authorities are now praising their "Larnaca operation." They are citing the need to combat terrorism as a justification of it. But this does not hold water. Even Western bourgeois papers sympathetic toward As-Sadat state that "there is no political or legal justification" for Cairo's action and that "the Egyptian action at Larnaca was a gross violation of Cyprus' sovereignty." But according to MENA, the White House, in its message to As-Sadat, supported the Egyptian armed expedition to Larnaca. And this catches your attention even more.

It is commonly known that observance of the sovereignty of independent states is a fundamental principle of international law, an absolute law. Nobody has the right to violate the sovereignty of states--whether they be big or small.

Today's world is complex. Its present-day panorama is composed of a multitude of events and phenomena. The picture is often contradictory. But the main milestones and processes of development in the world are distinct. They are determined by the forces of peace, progress and socialism.

#### WESTERN ECONOMIC CRISIS, CONFLICT GROWS MORE ACUTE

LD271229Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Political observer Georgiy Ratiani article: "Finance and Politics"]

[Text] In the last few days differences between the United States and the FRG over economic and monetary policy have grown more acute. The confidential conference of the finance ministers of the United States, Britain, France, the FRG and Japan hurriedly convened in Versailles, Paris, to settle the contradictions has obviously ended unsuccessfully. The New York TIMES muttered incoherently that the ministers "had studied ways of settling the acute arguments among the main Western allies in search for the best strategy to break out of the economic standstill."

After the Versailles meeting U.S. Treasury Secretary Blumenthal went to Bonn for more talks with Chancellor Schmidt and his ministers. This visit to the FRG did not help to eliminate the differences either. The West German STUTTGARTER ZEITUNG writes that at this meeting "they came to the unanimous opinion that there is no unanimity," but the British FINANCIAL TIMES adds: "If Blumenthal went to Bonn with a big stick, he should have stated the fact less loudly."

What is the essence of the disagreements? The disorder in the international financial affairs of the capitalist world has again come to the fore with great force. The exchange rate of the dollar recently plummeted and is still continuing to fall. This was caused by a huge deficit in the American balance of payments of about \$40 billion. The currency exchanges went wild. The OPEC countries began to discuss the question of whether, in these conditions, the expression of world oil prices in dollars would lead to losses for the countries selling oil and whether they would have to get rid of the green notes in their bank accounts. A new threat hung over the rate of the dollar. Falls in other currencies began--the French franc and Norwegian krona. In these conditions the rate of monetary units considered more stable in the capitalist world quickly began to rise in relation to the dollar--the West German mark and the Japanese yen. The Americans accuse the FRG and Japan of robbing other countries, and the latter accuse the United States of shaking the entire capitalist financial system.

These processes, which are now unusually acute, have been developing for a long time. Even last May at the London summit of leading capitalist states the United States pressured the FRG and Japan to open their markets more widely to American goods and the goods of the other West European countries, thereby "smoothing out" the crisis phenomena in various capitalist countries. At the time, in London, the matter ended with a definite compromise. Bonn is now even rejecting the concessions it made at the time, referring to the fact that the Americans want to resolve the difficulties only at the expense of others, are doing nothing themselves to find a way out of the crisis and are trying to turn a profit from the devaluation of the dollar.

Thus the present phase of talks brought no solution but, on the contrary, exacerbated the contradictions. "We are on the eve of a trade war between Bonn and Washington," the Italian newspaper LA STAMPA writes.

It is still difficult to tell how events will develop. In any case, Washington has started another, this time "forbidden device" according to Bonn. Washington officials, and behind them the American press, persistently assert: If West Germany does not open its markets wide to French and Italian goods, if it does not meet France and Italy half-way in the field of finance, it will be to blame for an intensification of social tension and political crisis and thereby for helping the left forces to come to power in these countries. "American figures declare," the Boston newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes, "that the FRG's 'engine' could help to pull France and Italy out of the quagmire of economic difficulties by insuring a capacious market for their goods, which would in turn weaken the communists' chances of participating in future governments of these countries."

It is difficult to say what is worse here--the attempts to force Bonn into making concessions advantageous to the United States by playing on the pathological anticommunism of a section of the influential West German ruling circles, or the naive idea that vague promises of animating foreign trade among major West European companies could introduce important changes in the positions of the French or Italian voters.

One thing is clear: The economic and financial crisis of capitalist society, whose depth and hopelessness the left political parties in bourgeois countries have been constantly stressing, has been convincingly confirmed yet again in this new outburst of imperialist contradictions.

'ACUTE CONTRADICTIONS' ARISE AT WEST'S ENERGY CONFERENCE

LD251452Y Moscow TASS in English 1421 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 25, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports:

A two-day conference of capitalist countries on the energy problems has ended here. Taking part in the conference were representatives of the United States, West European countries, Canada, Australia, Japan, as well as the International Energy Agency.

Acute contradictions between the USA, on the one hand, and the EEC countries and Japan, on the other, were manifested during the plenary meeting and in the working commissions both in assessing the causes of the shortages of energy and plans to overcome them. The delegates of the conference are unanimous only in the opinion that these difficulties in the West have a long drawn-out and serious nature and are one of the reasons for the stagnation in the economy of the capitalist countries.

Representatives of the EEC and Japan believe that the main cause of the energy crisis is the United States self-seeking policy. "The United States' rapidly growing import of petroleum is a reason for serious concern of the economic and financial circles in the world, Japan's representative said. There is unanimity of views that it is imperative that Washington should take urgent and decisive measures to decrease its import of petroleum".

On behalf of West European countries, representative of the EEC expressed obvious displeasure with the fact that Washington, while urging other countries for "moderation" in petroleum consumption, is doing nothing to limit petroleum consumption in the United States.

"We are seriously concerned with a sharp increase of import of petroleum by the United States, which more than trebled since 1972, the FRG representative said. He stressed that another sharp increase of this import will cause a strain on the world market and will jeopardize energy supply of Western Europe".

The participants in the conference from Western Europe and Japan made it plain that they are not satisfied with Washington's policy and expect from it effective measures for conservation of energy.

No joint documents were adopted by the conference because of serious differences. The materials of the conference will only serve as reference materials for specialized departments of Western countries that deal with energy matters.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BANNING NEUTRON BOMB OPENS

LD261755Y Moscow TASS in English 1656 GMT 26 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 26, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Lopatin reports: An international conference for banning the neutron weapon opened here today, organized by the World Peace Council jointly with the peace movement of Switzerland. Taking part are representatives of more than fifty countries and scores of international organizations.

Banning the neutron bomb is the central problem depending on the solution of which is mankind's further advance along the road of disarmament and detente, the conference was told by the president of the World Peace Council, Romesh Chandra. Recently the general secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev set forth a clear proposal on the reciprocal renunciation of the manufacture of the neutron bomb. We fully support this proposal, realising that the implementation of the plans to manufacture and deploy the neutron bomb, nurtured in Washington and NATO, would jeopardise the relaxation of international tension and the Helsinki all-European conference's final act.

We have gathered here with the sole purpose of strengthening peace, said a representative of the American peace movement, A. Stolberg. Since it is the leadership of the U.S. that is clamouring for the manufacture and deployment of the neutron bomb, a special responsibility evolves on us as citizens of the USA for preventing this. The popular movement against the neutron bomb is mounting in the United States, he said, which for its power and scope can only be compared to the mass actions of former years against the Vietnam war.

The former president of Portugal, Francisco da Costa Gomes, pointed to the tremendous danger of the plans to create the neutron bomb. They greatly damage the cause of detente which has been consolidated in Europe following the Helsinki conference, he said. Contrary to what the neutron bomb's advocates say, the deployment of the bomb would sharply increase the danger of a universal nuclear conflagration.

On behalf of the International Women's League for Peace and Freedom, conference participants were greeted by the league's chairman K. Camp. We have appealed to U.S. President James Carter, she said, to renounce the manufacture of the neutron bomb. All the peoples of the world must say a resolute "no" to the neutron bomb itself and to all other new means of annihilation.

The Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist community, said the deputy chairman of the Soviet Peace Committee, the writer Natan Rybak, come out resolutely against the creation and deployment of the neutron bomb, this new variety of nuclear weapons. Conscience [as received] of its responsibility for the destinies of peace and the future of civilization, the Soviet Government firmly conducts a course of barring neutron weapons from the military arsenals.

#### BAHR ARGUMENTS FAVORING NEUTRON BOMB CALLED 'UNTENABLE'

LD250708Y Moscow TASS in English 0652 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

["False Arguments: Concerning an Article by Egon Bahr"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 25, TASS--TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

The wider the wave of protests in the FRG against neutron weapons, the more active are the advocates of the weapons--those circles of West Germany which act as Pentagon emissaries in their own country. One should not underestimate the influence of those circles: Even some of those West German figures who until recently came out for detente and only yesterday publicly stated a resolute "no" to the Pentagon's plans proved prone to that influence in this or that degree. In this connection, observers' attention was attracted, in particular, by an article headlined "Neutron Weapons and Detente" by Egon Bahr, federal secretary of the Social Democratic Party. The article was published by the newspaper FLENSBURGER TAGEBLAT.

The neutron bomb, Egon Bahr stated, "from an ethical point of view deserves to be rejected. From the military point of view it would be questionable, but from the political viewpoint it is essential to secure concessions from the USSR at the Vienna talks on Mutual Reduction of the Armed Forces and Armaments in Central Europe." What can one say about these arguments? They are untenable because the advocates of this viewpoint are virtually making an attempt to justify such a political course which, by their own admission, contradicts human ethics. They are untenable also because, even if the political aspect of the problem is taken, there is no doubt that the development of neutron weapons in the FRG's territory would basically contradict the obligations taken by the leaders of that country in Helsinki. As Leonid Brezhnev said at a meeting of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet on February 24, the realization of the plans for the production of neutron weapons and their deployment in Europe "would substantially complicate the situation". Sober-minded political figures of the FRG, among them Egon Bahr, more than once and with good reason stated that such a turn of affairs would run counter to the national interests of West Germany itself.

As for the thesis that the deployment of neutron weapons will "enhance" the positions of the West at the Vienna talks, the advancement of the thesis indicates that some in the FRG would apparently want, not without prompting from the outside, to turn neutron weapons into an object of bargaining in Vienna. The initiators of such plans overlook the indisputable fact, however, that if there is no due progress at the Vienna talks, this is exactly because certain Western circles have been stubbornly, though in vain, trying for a long time already to exert "pressure" on the USSR in order to secure unilateral military advantages. Such a stand is utterly prospectless. The emergence of neutron weapons in NATO arsenal would complicate the Vienna talks still more, since how can one speak of a joint quest for ways to curb the arms race if one of the sides openly threatens the other one with a new refined weapon of mass destruction?

The weapons, if used, would result in the devastation of vast expanses and in the annihilation of huge masses of population, with this kind of weapons constituting the greatest danger to densely-populated countries of Western Europe or, to be more exact, the FRG. Those in the FRG who play up to the Pentagon's neutron strategy, thereby help bring about a situation threatening first of all the population of their own country.

It is exactly this real and indisputable fact which, it appears, West German politicians must take into consideration, first of all.

LONDON TIMES EDITORIAL ON NEUTRON BOMB LABELED 'INSOLENT'

LD2515247 Moscow TASS in English 1502 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 25, TASS--TASS political commentator Vladimir Khatuntsev writes: The British newspaper TIMES, having seemingly considered the pronouncement of the British Prime Minister Callaghan in defence of the neutron bomb as insufficiently convincing (and, by the way, it has not been mistaken), decided to contribute to this topic its own editorial article. Claiming objectivity, the newspaper even tries to remedy the prime minister who described the neutron bomb as "a very unpleasant weapon," and calls it "a monster." Such a bomb, the newspaper writes, "kills and maims by radiation, which means that people between about 500-1,000 metres from its explosion will die very slowly, while those farther away are liable to be damaged in a number of nasty ways.

On a battle-field it could leave soldiers with damaged brains still physically able to operate weapons before dying."

Thus, as we see, THE TIMES does not dispute that the neutron bomb is a barbarous, monstrous weapon, as is asserted (and it is quite true) by million of its opponents. It would seem that preceeding from this, THE TIMES should welcome all those who come out against the production of neutron weapons and their deployment on the territory of West European countries, including Britain. But, contrary to any logic, the newspaper acts quite the other way out. It says that the campaign that has been mounted by the Russians against this weapon should not be taken at its face value. This campaign, the newspaper says, "has been carefully orchestrated to play upon the sensibilities of the West," and expresses regret that "a few gullible people have been taken in."

A number of questions arise at a time, why THE TIMES, for instance, can write about the neutron weapon in a way that was cited at the beginning of this article. But Soviet information bodies cannot? Why can THE TIMES concern for destinies of mankind, but the Soviet Union cannot?

Trying to answer these questions, the British newspaper peremptorily states that the Russians, it turns out, can claim no moral standing in this issue at all. The statement is, certainly, softly speaking, insolent, but very little convincing. [sentence as received] In the opinion of THE TIMES, the Soviet Union is guilty, specifically, of possessing missiles with three independent warheads. Really the USSR possesses both nuclear weapons and missiles with independent warheads. But is it the Soviet Union which has been the first to make operational atomic and hydrogen weapons, missiles and the warheads that THE TIMES is so much concerned about? No, that was done by Britain's partners in the NATO military bloc. What had our country to do? For the authors from THE TIMES it is, certainly, clear that the Soviet Union, which in the past war for its (and not only its) freedom and independence lost 20 million lives, in the interests of its people, in the interests of peace, could not have done otherwise. Yes, we have everything necessary for defending our country. And if tomorrow a new weapon appears in Britain or any other state which will be aimed at us or our allies, the Soviet Union will find something to respond with. THE TIMES' present conception and, perhaps, that of Mr Callaghan, is reminiscent of an old anecdote about the boy who killed his parents and demanded that the court should acquit him on the ground that he was an orphan.

All other arguments of THE TIMES, are a match for each other. This, it would seem a serious newspaper, takes once again repeatedly rejected rumours on preparations by the "Russians for bacteriological and chemical warfare," etc. Then THE TIMES asserts that the neutron bomb is necessary for struggle against Soviet tank armies. Without entering into discussion over effectiveness of neutron weapons against tanks, it should be stated that if the viewpoint of the newspaper TIMES is shared, the arms race would never be stopped. A weapon against tanks will be invented today, and tomorrow the same logic will be used to justify a new nuclear weapon intended against sputniks, then against artillery and so without end.

It is quite obvious that "enough" should be said one day to save the world and mankind THE TIMES allegedly concerns about. Otherwise, the future of all people, and civilisation as a whole, will be imperilled. Exactly from this the Soviet Union proceeded and proceeds in its proposal that a universal ban be placed on new types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons, and also in its proposal on mutual renunciation of the production of neutron weapons. What is immoral in this proposal? It is immoral to push the world to calamity, and this is exactly what is being done by neutron bomb apologists, including, unfortunately, the newspaper TIMES.

## UNBIASED U.S. ATTITUDE TO SOVIET INITIATIVES URGED

LD280230Y Moscow in English to North America 2230 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Nikolay Shishlin commentary]

[Text] Soviet-American relations are again in the focus of world public attention following the discussion at a meeting of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the results of the trip of a Soviet parliamentary delegation to the United States and Leonid Brezhnev's comments. That is only natural since the fate of relaxation of world tensions and the solution of many outstanding world problems depend largely on how relations between the Soviet Union and the United States develop. In the comment that follows, Soviet journalist Nikolay Shishlin looks at some aspects of relations between our two countries.

The USSR, as Leonid Brezhnev underlined again, regards Soviet-American relations as an important element of the overall international course aimed at consolidating peace, halting the arms race and developing equal and mutually advantageous cooperation between countries. Relations between the Soviet Union and the United States have improved in recent years. A number of agreements and understandings have been reached for advancing the two countries' cooperation in different fields, cooperation that would be mutually advantageous and useful to both sides.

Some of them are already being implemented, but the overall potential of Soviet-American cooperation is used only to a limited extent and its progress is hampered by all kinds of obstacles. Leonid Brezhnev pointed out at the meeting of the USSR Supreme Soviet that these obstacles are being piled up by forces not the least interested in maintaining good-neighborly relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, nor in the relaxation of international tensions in general. The key issue is without doubt the agreement on limiting strategic arms, the SALT talks.

At present it looks as if the outline of an agreement is at last taking shape after long and complicated negotiations. But at this very moment, when it seemed that one little push could get a big job finished, a big and noisy campaign has been launched in the United States against the very essence of the proposed agreement. It is now that attempts are being made in the United States to overturn the yet unborn treaty on limiting strategic arms. The opponents of the agreement in Washington are not bothering to look for arguments to motivate their attitude. They think that the old hackneyed argument of an alleged Soviet menace will still serve them well. They ignore the authoritative and responsible statements of Soviet leaders who have emphatically stated that Soviet military policy is founded on one principle only--everything needed for effective defense but not an iota more.

Despite the facts, they ignore the defensive nature of Soviet efforts that are designed exclusively to protect ourselves and our socialist friends from attack and to forestall aggression. The enemies of disarmament in the United States are not taken aback by the fact that it is their own country and other NATO powers that are steadily increasing their military budgets, thus whipping up the arms race. American defense spending this year reached a huge total of \$118 billion, and they are to be increased by 9.4 percent in the coming fiscal year. Or take the Pentagon plans of launching the production of neutron weapons and deploying them in Europe. If these plans are allowed to materialize we shall be faced with a qualitative acceleration in the arms race.

The Soviet Union says this can be avoided by adopting a mutual pledge to abstain from the production of these lethal new weapons. The Soviet proposal aims at preventing a new, dangerous spiral of the arms race and provides a demonstration of good will and of a responsible approach to problems affecting the future of universal peace. The session of the Soviet parliament Presidium also dealt with another aspect of Soviet-

American relations: their economic, scientific and technological cooperation. Unfortunately one has to admit that the present scale of Soviet-American economic links falls far short of the existing opportunities in this area, and this is chiefly because of the well-known decisions of the United States Congress which in fact represent interference in this country's internal affairs.

In a speech at the session, General Secretary of the Soviet Communist Party and President Leonid Brezhnev stressed that we have entered a new stage of Soviet-American relations which calls for fresh efforts in order to give new momentum and a more constructive nature to our links. The Soviet-American dialog covers a whole range of issues. These include such major international problems as the problem of insuring the consistent implementation of the final act of the Helsinki summit. Heated debates that have taken place at the conference in Belgrade prove that these matters require further thorough consideration.

The Soviet-American dialog also covers cooperation in the humanitarian field, which is obstructed by artificial propaganda campaigns conducted by certain quarters in the United States over alleged human rights violations in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. All these and many other problems depend to a decisive extent on our progress in the area of limiting and curbing the arms race. In his speech at the session, Leonid Brezhnev outlined a clear-cut program of insuring a steady progress of Soviet-American cooperation. Further progress in the field of international relaxation, a policy which promotes the interests of universal peace, largely depends on a constructive approach by the American side and on an unbiased American attitude to Soviet initiatives.

#### POLITICIANS, MEDIA IN U.S. RESPOND TO BREZHNEV REMARKS

12280843Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Following Policy Line of Peace, Detente and Cooperation"]

[Text] 25 February--The speech by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, at the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium session in Moscow concerning a wide range of problems of the contemporary international situation and bilateral Soviet-American relations and, in particular, the results of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's visit to the United States has aroused a wide response from the American mass media and prominent U.S. politicians.

"I welcome L.I. Brezhnev's statement that the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's recent visit to the U.S. Congress was of great importance," A. Cranston, Democratic majority whip in the Senate, declared. "I also agree with his opinion that new efforts must be made to impart dynamism to detente and to find constructive solutions for the problems that confront the USSR and the United States and affect the whole world."

The senator stressed that these problems include both the very important task of reaching an agreement between the USSR and the United States on the limitation of strategic offensive armaments and the issues of the neutron bomb, the Horn of Africa situation, bilateral trade and economic cooperation and also a number of other urgent aspects of international relations which are awaiting solution. "The time has come to make new efforts to hold contacts at summit level and to implement consultations between the Soviet Union and the United States on all the questions interesting the sides," the senator stressed. In conclusion Cranston said that he will recommend the U.S. Congress to "accept most urgently the invitation to pay a return visit to the Soviet Union."

J. Brademas, Democratic majority whip in the House of Representatives, associated himself with this recommendation. "I am satisfied that L.I. Brezhnev regards the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation's recent visit to the United States as important. I am certain that these exchanges between our countries must continue," the congressman pointed out.

"Wonderful"--that is how American Senator M. Gravel characterized the Soviet leader's remark that the development of contacts with parliamentarians and statesmen of other countries has an important place in the foreign policy activity of the Soviet Union and that an American Congress delegation has been invited to the USSR on a return visit. "I am very glad at this statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and I believe that the exchanges of visits by parliamentary delegations of our countries should be placed on a regular footing," Gravel pointed out.

The capital's Washington POST highlights L.I. Brezhnev's remark that the potential has been created for deepening and expanding cooperation between the USSR and the United States. But today, unfortunately, it must be stated that the path to this cooperation is still blocked by all kinds of obstacles. The Soviet leader, the newspaper writes, pointed out that some people in the United States would now like to retard the course of the talks on limiting strategic offensive armaments and prevent their successful completion.

The chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium stressed that the Soviet Union is ready for the speediest conclusion of the talks on limiting strategic offensive armaments on the basis of the principles of equal security and pointed out the possibility of moving on after this to the next stage on the path to military detente, a commentator of the CBS radio and television company reported.

#### GROUP URGES INCREASED TRADE TIES WITH USSR

LD231146Y Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 23 Feb 78 ID

[Text] New York, February 23, TASS--The development of Soviet-American trade and economic ties on the basis of equality and mutual benefit, in the interests of deepening mutual understanding and trust between the peoples of the two countries, will help strengthen the process of relaxation of tension. This is one of the conclusions of the report on questions of Soviet-American relations prepared by the U.S. United Nations Association.

Soviet-American relations, the authors of the report write, are an exclusively important element of international economic relations. But, the report says, the development of cooperation between the two countries is deliberately hampered by discriminatory restrictions imposed by the right-wing forces in the United States.

The report stresses that the two countries--the USSR and the United States--are in many respects natural trade partners.

The Soviet Union, the authors of the report note in this connection, has sizable reserves of raw materials. The surveyed oil and natural gas reserves in the Soviet Union exceed by 30 percent or more the reserves of these minerals in the United States. Coal reserves in the Soviet Union exceed by 300 percent those in the United States. The report also notes the USSR's huge potential advantages over the United States in the hydraulic power sphere, reserves of manganese ore, chromium, platinum, nickel and other key minerals. Since the United States has a shortage of these raw materials, the report stresses, the United States' interest in the development of trade ties with the USSR grows.

Thus, the document points out, Soviet-American economic relations should be built on a long-term mutually-beneficial foundation. The granting of American credits to the USSR will promote progress in this sphere. Joint efforts in the sphere of development of energetics, the authors of the report point out, can help strengthen not only economic but also political relations between the two countries.

Agreements on cooperation in industry, the authors of the report point out, are also a hopeful means of further expansion of Soviet-American contacts through the development of relations on a long-term basis, the transfer of advanced technology, etc. The authors of the report stress the interest of the U.S. business world in furthering Soviet-American economic cooperation.

POLL SHOWS DISSATISFACTION WITH CARTER ADMINISTRATION

ID272152Y Moscow TASS in English 1708 GMT 27 Feb 78 ID

[Text] New York, February 27, TASS--According to the public opinion poll carried out this February by the ASSOCIATED PRESS and the NBC television company, 63 per cent of the Americans expressed dissatisfaction and disappointment with the foreign policy of the Carter administration. The number of Americans backing the foreign policy line of their government has dropped eight per cent as compared with the January poll. Only 34 per cent of the polled approved of the U.S. administration's policy in the economic and social spheres. This is seven per cent less than last month, more than sixty per cent of the Americans expressed dissatisfaction with the home policy of President Carter.

In the opinion of the poll organizers, the falling prestige of the White House among the Americans is explained by its stand in the labour conflict in the coal industry of the United States. It is common knowledge that the administration sided with the mine owners, demanded from the leadership of the United Mineworkers' Union an immediate end to the strike of 160,000 miners, threatened to apply the Taft-Hartley antilabour law. The results of the February public opinion poll, the ASSOCIATED PRESS stresses, is the lowest evaluation of the activity of Carter's administration since it came to power.

BROWN CONFIRMS PLANS FOR INCREASED PACIFIC STRENGTH

ID241355Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 78 p 5 ID

[Correspondent Ye. Rusakov dispatch: "Strategy of Arms Buildup"]

[Text] New York, 22 February--In the foreign policy sphere the American administration is building up its efforts to strengthen the NATO military-political bloc. At the same time Washington is striving to strengthen U.S. military might in the Far East and Southeast Asia. U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown has confirmed this. "We are and will continue to be the chief force in the Pacific," the Pentagon chief said in a speech to the Council for World Problems in Los Angeles. "It cannot be otherwise. We cannot be strong in Europe and weak in Asia, for our might in Asia contributes to our might in Europe and vice versa."

The present U.S. Pacific strategy, H. Brown declared, contains the following elements: building up strategic nuclear missile forces, increasing the flow of arms to South Korea and intensifying attempts to involve Japan in the U.S. military effort in the Far East and Southeast Asia, primarily in South Korea.

As the Pentagon chief said in his speech in Los Angeles, the program for strengthening U.S. military forces in the Pacific area envisages building up new types of armaments: nuclear submarines carrying Trident missiles, B-52 bombers equipped with cruise missiles and the modernization and strengthening of the 7th Fleet, including its air cover. As expected, the widely vaunted withdrawal of American ground forces from South Korea represents a certain reallocation of roles between the United States and the Seoul regime. The United States is strengthening its air forces in South Korea, and the Seoul regime is strengthening its ground forces. As has become known, the United States intends in the next few months to send another 12 F-4 tactical fighters to South Korea. Congress is currently discussing a \$2-billion "aid" program designed to strengthen the South Korean military machine.

## MICRONESIA POLICY OF U.S. SAID TO VIOLATE PRINCIPLES

ID271355Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 Feb 78 p 5 ID

[TASS report: "Dangerous Designs"]

[Text] New York, 24 February--In the course of the work of the 31st and 32d UN General Assembly sessions and sessions of the UN Trusteeship Council, the USSR representatives have frequently drawn attention to the abnormal situation whereby the population of trust territory in the Pacific (Micronesia) has so far been unable to implement its right to self-determination and independence, proclaimed in the UN Charter as the goal of the trusteeship system.

The United States, as the ruling power, instead of leading matters toward the decolonization of this territory, is essentially turning it into its own property. Here it is violating the principle of treating a territory under trusteeship as a whole and is trying to divide it and achieve differing status for its components. But, as is well known, in its declaration on granting independence to colonial countries and peoples, adopted at the Soviet Union's initiative, the General Assembly condemned any attempts aimed at the partial or total violation of the national unity and territorial integrity of the colonial territories.

A statement on this issue from the USSR's UN mission distributed here says that according to reports on 9 January this year one more step was taken to bring into force the Mariana Islands' new status as a territory "of a commonwealth within the framework of political alliance with the United States." The actual title and conditions of the "treaty" previously signed on this score leave no doubt that it is a case of turning this territory into a U.S. possession.

The United States is undertaking similar measures with regard to two other archipelagos of the trust territory of Micronesia--the Caroline Islands and Marshall Islands. These islands are accorded the status of U.S.-"associated" territories, which would perpetuate their subordinated position.

The question of Micronesia's future, the statement notes, is a component part of the problem of decolonization and of granting colonial peoples the right to self-determination and independence. Any measures by the governing authority signifying the fact the annexation of the trust territory, under whatever pretext they are implemented, are in flagrant contradiction with the UN Charter, the agreement on trusteeship, the declaration on granting independence to the colonial countries and peoples, and elementary human rights.

As the UN Charter clearly states, any alteration to the status of a strategic trust territory, which is what the Pacific islands are in accordance with the agreement between the UN Security Council and the United States, should be made only by the decision of the Security Council and consequently cannot be undertaken by the governing power, whose unilateral actions on such a question cannot be recognized as lawful.

## Militarization Continues

ID271439Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 5 ID

[Oleg Skalkin article: "In Defiance of Commitments"]

[Text] Washington recently announced the entry into force of a new status for the Mariana Islands. From now on the United States assumes "responsibility for their defense and international relations." The colonialist point of this undertaking is self-evident.

The United States has at various times and in various connections demonstrated its desire to establish control in the Pacific and particularly in the northwest part of it, where Micronesia is situated. For instance, during his time as U.S. Secretary of State Dean Rusk publicly stated Washington's desire to insure that "every wave in the Pacific is American"....

And here no secret was made of the fact that the expansionist aspirations of American ruling circles were explained primarily by strategic considerations. The Pentagon generals and admirals regard Micronesia as a particularly important bridgehead. Moreover, they have long been acting as though this enormous ocean area--nearly as big as the territory of the United States itself in terms of area--was already in their pocket. Military bases have been equipped on the Micronesian Islands and testing grounds for intercontinental missile trials are in operation. As is well known, for many years Eniwetok Atoll was used for experiments with nuclear weapons.

The militarization of Micronesia continues. At the same time illegal action is being taken for the final seizure of the archipelagoes which constitute it. It is apposite to recall that neither Micronesia as a whole nor any of its component parts have ever belonged to the United States. The latter has been the temporary trustee of these island territories with a total population of approximately 250,000 since World War II. The decision taken by the United Nations in this connection made it incumbent on the U.S. Government to contribute to the trust territory's development toward self-determination or independence. But right from the start Washington has worked toward colonizing them.

The recent declaration on the status of the Mariana Islands testifies that American diplomacy and its local agents have openly resorted to suppressing the will of small people struggling for genuine independence. The United States also intends to impose a "plebiscite" regarding "free association with the United States" on the population of the Marshall and Caroline islands.

These actions expose the predatory policy of the American ruling circles and Washington's total disregard for its international commitments, including the UN Charter and the UN General Assembly declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples.

CIA SAID TO VIOLATE CIVIL RIGHTS IN U.S.

LD280952Y Moscow TASS in English 0935 GMT 28 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 28 TASS--The TASS correspondent, Igor Makurin reports: American opinion once again has riveted its attention on the illegal activity of the Central Intelligence Agency inside the country. This was due to a decision by the U.S. Department of Justice to protest a ruling by the Brooklyn federal court, which has found the espionage department guilty of flouting the fundamental rights and liberties of American citizens. This political scandal began when it was learnt that CIA agents for 20 years had been opening letters of Americans at New York's main post office systematically and in violation of U.S. legislation. It was established during the investigation that at least 250,000 private letters had been opened and photographed between 1953 and 1973 and that 1.5 million files had been set up on the basis of information thus received by the CIA. Three Americans, who had irrefutable evidence showing that their mail had been regularly handled by the CIA, instituted legal proceedings against the American espionage department. The violation of the United States Constitution was so obvious that Judge Weinstein pronounced a ruling compelling the CIA to pay compensation of one thousand dollars and costs to each victim of the arbitrariness. Seeking to reassure public opinion and to hush up the case, which had been widely publicised, CIA Director Stansfield Turner wrote a letter, published in the press and expressing sincere regret over the violation of the privacy of correspondence and interference in private life and pledged that this would never happen again. American propaganda hastened to present this fact as a manifestation of "democracy."

The decision of the Department of Justice to protest the ruling of the Brooklyn federal court, however, brought out the utter hypocrisy of these discourses. The Department of Justice, an institution called upon to protect the rights of the citizens of the "free" American society, in its protest makes it unequivocally clear to Americans that CIA actions must not be discussed or challenged.

The New York TIMES says the Department of Justice reacts in a strange and incomprehensible way to a violation of rights inside the country at a time when the Carter administration is publicly stressing the need of observing human rights abroad. But there is no reason for surprise. Calling in question the ruling of the court, the Department of Justice not only defended the criminal activity of the CIA, the FBI and other American special services but also once again revealed the real value of the discourses about human rights in the society of vaunted "democracy."

FBI DIRECTORS COME AND GO, BUT AGENCY REMAINS THE SAME

LD251136Y Moscow in English to North America 0030 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

[Text] On Thursday William Webster was sworn in as the new FBI director. For the first time the ceremony was held in the building named for Edgar Hoover. Our observer, Igor Dimitriyev, comments:

The AP quoted William Webster as saying during the swearing-in ceremony: Let there be no doubt about it, the FBI exists to uphold the law. We will do the work the American people expect of us in a way the Constitution demands of us.

William Webster has been a federal judge for 7 years, and his words reflect not only his personal loyalty to the Constitution and law enforcement but also his idea of what a responsible government agency as the FBI should be. His words bring back the memory of past ceremonies and similar pledges from his predecessors to make the FBI a model institution on which the American people could rely for law enforcement and protection of their human rights.

Recent disclosures of illegal acts by the FBI have tarnished its image and have led many Americans to think that the FBI has been turned into an instrument of stifling dissent, framing up of human rights activists, subverting and discrediting various progressive groups and organizations. The FBI intimidated and threatened Martin Luther King. It conducted its notorious [word indistinct] scheme, planting agents in a number of black and student organizations. Break-ins and illegal wiretaps have become a way of life. Millions of files on Americans have been collected by the FBI in close cooperation with the CIA, army intelligence, the IRS and other agencies. It all began in Hoover's times, in the wake of the witch-hunting and anticommunist campaign in America. It was basically an anti-American campaign, because it hit hard first and foremost on the constitutional rights of the American people. Then came the war in Vietnam, which split the American society. And the FBI was in the forefront of the campaign focused on antiwar protestors.

Some people in the United States establishment would like to make the American people believe that illegal acts of the FBI, and the CIA for that matter, were occasional flare-ups of improper action that were dictated by abrupt turns in internal and international situations; that they were accidental. But this argument does not explain such things as the meticulous planning of all FBI operations against the progressive organizations, the long-term character of the FBI file-gathering, the scope of domestic spying, and political harassment. William Webster has succeeded Clarence Kelly, who stepped down last week. Clarence Kelly was certainly criticized by Jimmy Carter during his presidential campaign. Now that Mr Kelly has retired the American President was reported to have showered praise on him. This inconsistency helps explain one vital thing in my view. People may come and go, they may say good words and fail to make good on them, but the agencies they direct remain what they were. The FBI with their solid background of undemocratic policies, views and experience is no exception.

## ENCOURAGEMENT OF NEONAZI ACTIVITIES IN U.S. CONDEMNED

LD242212Y Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

["Authorities Encourage Neonazis"--TASS headline]

[Text] New York, February 24 TASS--U.S. Federal Court District Judge in Chicago Bernard Decker made ruling on Thursday to permit the American neonazis to stage a march in Skokie, a Chicago suburb, on April 20, the birthday of Adolf Hitler. Skokie is chiefly inhabited by Jewish immigrants from Europe. Many of them suffered from the Nazi persecution during World War Two and have more than once protested to the authorities of the state about the provocative venture.

However, Judge Bernard Decker rejected the ordinances by the Skokie inhabitants on the pretext that to prevent the march by the jack-booted American Nazis would mean to violate the free speech provisions of the U.S. Constitution. He reaffirmed the earlier ruling of the high court of the State of Illinois giving a free hand to the swastika-carrying thugs. Among other things, it was maintained in the ruling on the neonazi activities that the wearing of swastikas was a symbolic appeal to the public by those who want to make their political views known to it.

A spokesman for Nazi leader Frank Collins said the "group is very happy about the decision. He always believed that the courts would uphold the constitutionality of what we were doing."

While Hitler's followers feel more and more at ease in the United States because of the encouragement by the authorities, courts forget about "freedom of speech" when it is sought by labor union activists fighting for the right to work or champions for the civil rights of the black Americans. The rights guaranteed by the Constitution are denied to the "Wilmington ten," the "Charlotte three" and many other black American activists imprisoned by racist courts on trumped up charges.

## U.S. ACCUSED OF SHIELDING BRAZINSKAS SKYJACKERS

LD272137Y Moscow TASS in English 2116 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

["Cover-up for Air Pirates"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--The Moscow paper VOZDUSHNY TRANSPORT (AIR TRANSPORTATION) is asking why does the White House keep silent about how long the Brazinskas air pirates are going to enjoy the patronage of U.S. Government services?

The paper carried today an article entitled "Why Is the White House Silent?" exposing the reason why the U.S. is giving refuge to the father and son Brazinskas, who in 1970 hijacked a Soviet aircraft, killing the air hostess, and are now hiding in the United States.

"The Brazinskas," writes the VOZDUSHNY TRANSPORT, "actually perpetrated three crimes--the hijacking of an aircraft, the murder of an air hostess and an illegal entry into the United States. However, far from meeting retribution, they enjoy patronage extended to them by government services of the U.S. This means that the immigration and naturalization office of the U.S., who are responsible for the case of the Brazinskas pirates, regard statements by and signatures of heads of the state under international commitments as nothing but flowery words and autographs with no binding force at all.

The paper recalls a statement by a White House spokesman who described the crimes of the Brazinskis bandits who escaped to the USA as a serious non-political crime. It would seem, the article notes, that following this admission and other statements by U.S. statesmen, the criminals, by all logic, ought to have been extradited. Nevertheless these culprits were given special protection by U.S. Government departments and a number of responsible executives.

"Taking advantage of the White House administration's silent approval, the immigration office is manifesting extraordinary interest and ingenuity in its attempts to 'sink' the Brazinskis case in a labyrinth of juridical casuistry. In doing so it makes no secret of its desire to 'thoroughly study' certain political motives, which allegedly may emerge when resolving this matter," writes the VOZDUSHNY TRANSPORT.

"The Brazinskis, who arrived in the U.S. from Venezuela, breaking American laws," the paper notes, "live freely in America, pay visits to the immigration office, where they are received as welcome guests." However you look at it, the American administration is actually saving the killers from retribution only because their profession of hatred for the USSR is regarded in the United States as an indulgence and sufficient "expiation of their sins". It appears that the concepts of "morals" "law" and "human rights," as understood by the U.S. President and his executives, have a markedly class bias and an obvious political tinge.

To admit this would not look too good for the American side, for then it would have to give up its hypocritically assumed role of proponent of a universal human morality, allegedly the same for all and everyone on the globe.

Washington, February 28, TASS--American Senator Peter Domenici submitted to the upper chamber of the U.S. Congress a bill envisaging a permit for the criminals, the father and son Brazinskis, who in 1970 hijacked a Soviet passenger plane, for permanent residence in the U.S. in an attempt to exonerate the culprits who killed an air hostess and seriously wounded the pilot and flight engineer of the Soviet plane. The senator maintained that the Brazinskis experienced a "severe tragedy". Earlier a similar bill was submitted in the House of Representatives by Congressman Robert Dornan.

These actions by two American legislators confirm once again that the air pirates found influential sponsors in the USA.

#### PROBLEMS FACING U.S. SPACE SHUTTLE SYSTEM NOTED

LD281028Y Moscow TASS in English 1039 GMT 28 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 28 TASS--In preparing the first independent flight of the shuttle spaceship, American specialists have encountered serious technical problems in the booster system. In the opinion of representative of the McDonnell Douglas Aircraft Co L. Rayburn, a search for the solution of the problems may take more time than was expected, as a result of which the launching of the shuttle may be postponed.

According to the programme of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the flight was scheduled for the spring-summer of this year.

CCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM, COMMUNIQUE REPORTED

LD231638Y Moscow TASS in English 1632 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Peking, February 23 TASS--It is announced here that a plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China took place in Peking on February 18-23. The plenum considered items on the holding of the first session of the All-China Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, which is to open on February 24, and of the first session of the Fifth National People's Congress, which is to begin on February 26. The plenary meeting approved a number of documents which are to be submitted to the session of the National People's Congress: "A Report on the Government's Work", "Draft Basic Provisions of a Ten-Year National Economic Development Plan for 1976-85", "A Draft Amended Constitution of the PRC". The plenary meeting discussed new appointments in the governmental and state bodies of the PRC, which are to be endorsed by the session of the National People's Congress. A communique on the plenary meeting, however, does not give concrete candidacies.

The communique says that a new text of the national anthem of the PRC is to be submitted to the session of the National People's Congress for consideration.

It is reported that the plenum was addressed by Hua Kuo-feng, chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

PRC FOREIGN POLICY SEEKS DISORDER, GLOBAL NUCLEAR WAR

LD280915Y Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 15 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[NOVOSTI political observer A. Lavrentyev commentary for PRAVDA VOSTOKA: "Peking: The Search for Allies Continues"]

[Text] The news of Teng Hsiao-ping's trip to Burma and Nepal has awakened memories of the "subtleties" of classic Chinese diplomacy, which frequently bewildered interlocutors and highly experienced observers. However, the first impression of mysteriousness evaporates at the slightest contact with the practice of Peking's current zigzag course.

The official aim of the trip is "to strengthen and develop traditional friendship," according to a statement at Rangoon Airport by Teng Hsiao-ping. But what kind of friendship was the vice premier of the PRC State Council speaking of if for the past 30 years Peking has armed, trained and encouraged separatists to overthrow the legal government of Burma? The subversive activity of the Macists did not cease even after President Ne Win's two visits last year to the Chinese capital. On the contrary, the separatists, led by Takin Ba Tein Tin, who lives on Chinese territory, made their biggest attack just after Ne Win's return home.

The words of the Chinese leaders are almost always at variance with their deeds. What is concealed behind the current trip to the PRC's neighbors by the No 3 figure [as published] in the Chinese state hierarchy?

Whatever assurances he gave, the political gesture is directly linked with Peking's new round of constructing a "united antihegemony front."

Attempts to attract the developing countries and the so-called "Third World," as given by the late Mao Tse-tung to West Europe, Japan, Canada and Australia, to China have existed for years. But without results. Japan is, not without reason, hesitant to associate itself with a treaty "on peace and friendship." West Europe has also virtually refused to subscribe to Peking's foreign policy, conducted under the banner of struggle against the "superpowers." French Premier R. Barre turned down Teng Hsiao-Ping's call to impede "all initiatives by the Russians," including blocking the disarmament talks. France, he told his interlocutor, has no intention of departing from the course toward deepening detente and disarmament, which has proven its worth. The Chinese leaders heard approximately the same from FRG Foreign Minister Genscher.

Will China succeed in drawing Asia nearer? Hardly. The "Third World" is well aware that the clumsy attempts of both the late Mao and his successors conceal the main strategic goal of gaining dominance over their neighbors and those in other regions. The shortest route to this goal, in the opinion of the Maoists, is via "great disorder," local conflicts and, finally, global nuclear war--the inferno into which Peking is ready to cast mankind.

Specific steps leading to the realization of this provocative ambition can be seen in China's obdurate position at all international forums, particularly the United Nations assembly, and in tactics aimed at preserving existing explosive situations and fanning potential hotbeds of military confrontation. Peking's provocative activity in connection with conflicts in the Near East, the Horn of Africa, South Africa and Southeast Asia, for instance, serves as convincing affirmation of such a course.

The fanatical anti-Sovietism of the Maoists must also be seen from this viewpoint. For struggle against the Soviet Union is not an end in itself for Peking. The first country of socialism has been named as the "main enemy" only because, working as it does to preserve world peace, it has become a serious obstacle in the path of the Chinese pretenders to world supremacy.

Certain political aims of China can be seen quite clearly behind their intense interest in such neighbors as Burma, Nepal and Cambodia.

As is known, the situation in Asia has stabilized recently. Neighborliness is being strengthened on the Indian subcontinent and relations among the countries of Southeast Asia are normalizing. The members of ASEAN have refused to associate themselves with the military doctrines of the West.

The widening process detente on the continent is disrupting the realization of Chinese plans built on the concept of "the worse, the better."

Taking account of Maoist China's blatantly provocative role in international affairs, many observers also link Peking with the border conflict which has flared up between Cambodia and Vietnam. They refer not only to the fairly open display of sympathies toward one of the sides but also to the unambiguous statements of Chinese and Cambodian officials. For instance, Teng Ying-chao, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of the Chinese National People's Congress, who recently visited Phnom Penh, voiced criticism against Vietnam. According to an AFP correspondent, Pech Cheang, Cambodian ambassador to Peking, stated at a press conference that the surprise visit by Teng Yin-chao to his country was not for the purpose of softening Cambodia's implacability and forcing its leaders to the negotiating table. This "extremely friendly" visit, he added, was made to "confirm the highly durable friendship existing between our countries." It is symptomatic that, after the messenger from Peking departed from Cambodia, Phnom Penh confirmed its refusal to resolve the conflict with Vietnam by means of negotiation.

Peking's negative attitude toward stabilizing the situation in Asia can also be seen in its ignoring of appeals from India to normalize bilateral relations. Judging from everything, the Peking leaders intend to continue maintaining cool relations with their largest neighbor [as published]. Last September Li Hsien-nien, vice premier of the State Council, in a talk with American journalists, voiced additional territorial claims on India.

The facts cited, as well as many others, testify that Maoist China intends to continue a provocative course toward exacerbating the world situation.

#### BURMESE SEPARATIST MOVEMENT SUPPORTED BY CHINA

OW240417Y Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 0630 GMT 20 Feb 78 OW

[Unattributed commentary]

[Summary] "The current Chinese leaders are still planning to conduct hostile activities against neighboring Burma. They fully support the Burmese splittists engaged in an armed struggle against the government. There are secret training camps in south China charged with training Burmese terrorists. When forced to retreat under government attack, the Burmese insurgents always seek asylum in Chinese territory. There are also cases in which China's regular army has entered Burma's territory to render direct support to the armed Burmese splittists."

China and Burma maintain formal diplomatic relations and the friendship treaty between the two countries is still in force. However, evidence shows that Peking does not consider itself obliged to live up to the general terms of treaties governing international relations. "As is known to all, the Burmese Government has repeatedly sought the normalization of relations with China and tried to have Peking give up its subversive activities against Burma. Last year alone, U Ne Win, the Burmese head of state, visited Peking twice to conduct negotiations with Chinese leaders. However, Peking has never cut off its support to the Burmese splittists."

Recently, Chinese Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping made an official visit to Burma. As reported by the Burmese press, the visit failed to result in any normalization of relations between the two countries and Peking has continued its hostile activities against Burma.

"What is Peking's aim in supporting the Burmese splittists? In its statements, Peking has repeatedly expressed its determination to support the revolutionary struggle waged by the Burmese people. However, these statements constitute out-and-out slander against (?Burma). The Burmese splittists have never won the Burmese people's support, nor do they represent the people's interests. There are many foreign nationals in the ranks of the Burmese splittists. The chieftains of these splittists are unable to make their own decisions and their activities are subject to Peking's command. These anti-government elements depend entirely upon China's military and other assistance. This information was supplied by those who were forced to join the ranks of the splittists but later succeeded in escaping."

Peking has also tried to draw the Overseas Chinese residing in Burma into the ranks of the Burmese splittists. All the elements engaged in subversive activities in Burma actually belong to Peking's fifth column. The current Chinese leaders support all the pro-Peking elements in the various Southeast Asian countries in their armed activities against the governments. Peking's ultimate aim is to seize those areas of Southeast Asia rich in natural resources.

## HUSAK CITES SOCIALIST DEVELOPMENT IN ANNIVERSARY ADDRESS

LD242144Y Moscow TASS in English 2104 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

["True to the Behests of the February Victory"--TASS headline]

[Text] Prague, February 24 TASS--Festively decked out, the Czechoslovak capital celebrated the 30th anniversary of the victorious February. Gathered today in the old place [as received] are the veterans of revolutionary struggle and the youth, representatives of the people of Prague and the mid-Czech region, combatants of the people's militia--the workers' detachments created thirty years ago on the initiative of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] for defending the interests of the working people.

A speech was made by the general secretary of the CPCZ CC and president of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Gustav Husak.

In the days of February 1948, Gustav Husak said, the working people led by the Communist Party resolved the basic questions of the life of our society, of our state. Czechoslovakia took the road of socialist development, of strengthening the alliance and friendship with the USSR which brought us freedom and stood by our peoples in the most critical moments of history.

The working class, the peasantry, the progressive intelligentsia of Czechoslovakia followed the Communist Party in February 1948, demonstrated their trust and support for the policy of the Communist Party, came out resolutely for the socialist perspective of the republic's development.

Today, from the height of these thirty years, we see more clearly than ever how correct was that historical decision of our people, what a glorious page in the history of the country was opened by February 1948. The goals and tasks set by the Communist Party, by the working people have now turned into the reality of our socialist society, our republic has changed beyond recognition in these decades, the status of the working man has changed tremendously and is constantly changing for the better.

But February 1948 is something more than history and glorious revolutionary traditions, Gustav Husak continued. February remains to us a call for and guidance to action in all our present work to translate into life the decisions of the 15th Congress of the CPCZ. This is why we steadfastly strive to consolidate the power of the working class, of the socialist system, to constantly broaden the participation of working people in the elaboration and implementation of policy, in running the affairs of state, in deepening socialist democracy.

Today, just as before, we invariably seek deeper friendship with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, for this is the main guarantee of our security, our national freedom, independence, peaceful and happy life of our people, Gustav Husak stressed.

Festive manifestations dedicated to the 30th anniversary of the February victory of the working people over the forces of reaction were held in other cities of the country.

Ustinov Greetings

LD271615Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Text] To Comrade Army Gen M. Dzur, CSSR minister of national defense:

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Respected Comrade Minister:

Personally and on behalf of the Soviet Armed Forces I send to you and all soldiers of the Czechoslovak People's Army fraternal combat greetings and cordial congratulations on the 30th anniversary of the Czechoslovak working people's victory over reaction.

The victory of February 1948 opened up before the Czechoslovak people a broad path toward socialist building. Under the leadership of their communist party the working people of the CSSR are now successfully building a developed socialist society and making a significant contribution to increasing the might of the world system of socialism and strengthening it.

On the day of the glorious February anniversary I wish the soldiers of the Czechoslovak People's Army further successes in combat and political training and in improving combat skill for the good of strengthening the defense capability of their motherland and the entire socialist community.

With communist greetings,

[signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Ustinov, USSR minister of defense

CSSR Ambassador's Address

LD261254Y Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0530 GMT 26 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Jan Havelka, Czechoslovak ambassador to the USSR, told the viewers of the Soviet Central Television Network yesterday that, in all stages of building socialism, the Czechoslovak people have felt the aid and support of the Soviet Union. He recalled that the anniversary of victorious February coincides with the anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Union Armed Forces. He took this opportunity to sincerely congratulate Soviet soldiers, war veterans and all Soviet people.

Soviet-Czech Ties

LD241643Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent I. Biryukov report: "Heirs of February"]

[Excerpts] Prague--Socialist Czechoslovakia is now celebrating its glorious jubilee--the 30th anniversary of the victory over reaction. The February victory marked a fundamental turn in the fate of the republic and opened a broad path toward the socialist restructuring of society.

The victory of the working people of Czechoslovakia had great international significance. During the celebration of the 20th anniversary, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said at the ceremonial meeting in Prague, addressing the communists and all working people of the republic: "The events of February 1948 marked a sharp turn in the destiny of your country--a turn which opened up a broad path toward socialist building for Czechoslovakia. These events were also one of the important milestones in the establishment of the world system of socialism."

Our Czechoslovak friends have frequently stressed that the Soviet Union has not only played a decisive part in liberating the country from fascism but has also rendered the republic's working people selfless fraternal aid in building a new life. Soviet grain was sent during the catastrophic drought of 1947. Soviet ore and coal were the answer to the imperialists' economic blockade. The Czechoslovak Communists turned to the experience of the CPSU and the Soviet Union in resolving major sociopolitical problems. In February 1948 the Soviet Union, by its active foreign policy and the strengthening of relations with Czechoslovakia, prevented the West from launching an intervention against it.

Soviet-Czechoslovak relations are now more varied and fruitful than ever. We are related and brought together by the joint struggle to embody the ideals of the working class and by our common desire for peace. The soul and guiding and organizing force of Soviet-Czechoslovak cooperation is the alliance and unity of the CPSU and the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ].

Throughout the republic party workers, propaganda workers, and agitation workers are now delivering speeches to the working people--summing up the results of the CSSR's 30 years of development. The figures convincingly reveal the advantages of socialism: The country's national income has increased 5.5 times, industrial production has increased 12 times, and the country's consumption has quadrupled. Behind the figures lie outstanding victories won by the working people under the CPCZ's leadership. Here too there is the industrialization of a backward, previously agrarian region--Slovakia--and the formation of the peasantry into cooperatives, the flourishing of spiritual life and the formation of the new man--an active fighter for the implementation of communist ideals. The CSSR has embarked on the stage of building a developed socialist society.

#### HONECKER ADDRESSES CUNHAL RECEPTION, CITES SED-PCP TIES

LD251744Y Moscow TASS in English 1659 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Berlin, February 25 TASS--Erich Honecker, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] has spoken at a reception in honor of Alvaro Cunhal, general secretary of the Portuguese Communist Party [PCP], now on a visit here. He said that in the conversations held discussed was a broad range of questions concerning cooperation between the SED and the PCP in order to fight ever more efficiently together with other fraternal parties and peace forces, for peace, security, relaxation of international tension and social progress. In this connection he emphasized that, above all, it is necessary to frustrate the U.S. plans of production of neutron weapons and making them operational with NATO.

Touching upon questions of the international communist movement, Erich Honecker has said: In firm alliance with the USSR and other fraternal states we are striving to do our utmost to strengthen the positions of world socialism. We actively stand for stronger unity of the international communist movement, Erich Honecker said. He stressed great significance of the programme of actions, drawn up by the Berlin conference of communist and workers' parties of Europe, since the struggle for peace, democracy and social progress is now being conducted in different conditions and this prompts the need of elaborating each party's policy in accordance with the concrete situation in its country, and common experience and aims should not be overlooked either.

The communist parties, Alvaro Cunhal said in reply, are guided by Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. They are united in appraising international problems. He denounced any attempts to split the international communist movement.

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The general secretary of the Central Committee of the PCP noted the complexity of the current situation in Portugal, with obvious new threats to the Portuguese revolution. But the people of Portugal, the working class, all the democratic forces are able to defend their gains.

Our party, Alvaro Cunhal noted, takes into account national peculiarities in Portugal which will also determine its socialist future. Meanwhile, we undoubtedly take into account the common principles, characteristic of all socialist countries. He highly appreciated the fraternal links of the PCP with the CPSU, the SED, and other communist and workers' parties of socialist countries.

#### KUZNETSOV RECEIVES POLISH AMBASSADOR'S CREDENTIALS

LD271857Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Kazimierz Olszewski, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Polish People's Republic, presented his credentials in the Kremlin today to Kuznetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

After the credentials were presented and after an exchange of speeches between Comrades Kuznetsov and Olzeski, there was a conversation, which passed in a warm and fraternal atmosphere.

#### KOSYGIN CABLES CONDOLENCES TO LAZAR ON MINE DEATHS

LD241651Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Unattributed report: "Sincere Condolences"]

[Text] A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has sent Gyorgy Lazar, chairman of the Hungarian Council of Ministers, a telegram which says: On behalf of the USSR Council of Ministers and on my own behalf I express profound sympathy at the explosion in the Tatabanya coal mine, which caused loss of life.

I ask you to convey sincere condolences to the families and relatives of the deceased.

#### CONFERENCE OF PARTY SECRETARIES OPENS IN BUDAPEST

LD271354Y Moscow TASS in English 1338 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Budapest, February 27 TASS--A conference of secretaries for international and ideological matters of the central committees of the fraternal parties of the socialist countries has opened here.

It is attended by representatives of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, the Vietnam Communist Party, the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, the Communist Party of Cuba, the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party, the Polish United Workers' Party, the Romanian Communist Party, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

The conference was opened by M. Ovari, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and secretary of the party's Central Committee.

## BAVARIAN PREMIER RECEIVED BY SOLOMENTSEV DURING MOSCOW VISIT

LD242236Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, has received Bavarian Premier Goppel, who is in Moscow in connection with the opening of the exhibition "Bavaria-Land and People."

## Kosygin Holds 'Surprise' Talk

LD241404Y Hamburg DFA in German 1318 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--Soviet Premier Kosygin today had a surprise meeting at the Kremlin with Bavarian Premier Alfons Goppel (CSU). According to Goppel, Kosygin stressed the senselessness of war and spoke of the destruction of densely populated Western Europe in the event of nuclear war during the 45-minute talk. Kosygin also said, with reference to the neutron bomb, that for the USSR there are no secret weapons; that the Soviet Union did not lose any sleep over the "fairy tale about the neutron bomb."

Goppel arrived in Moscow yesterday for the opening of the "Bavaria--Its Land and People" exhibition. The meeting with Kosygin was arranged at short notice at the invitation of the Soviet premier: Goppel described it as a "briefing." Neither the Berlin question nor the role of the Bonn upper house as the body representing the Laender in matters of German affairs were mentioned. Among Moscow observers, the meeting caused surprise because of the recent very sharp attacks on the CDU and especially the CSU by Soviet mass media. During the past few days they concentrated their criticism on the CDU-CSU lower house group's consent to the introduction of the neutron bomb. Also present at the talk with Kosygin were Anton Jaumann, Bavarian economics minister; Alfred Dick, minister for the environment; Fritz Pirkel, minister for social affairs; Hans Georg Wieck, ambassador of the Federal Republic; and Egon Essl, chairman of the Bavarian Society for the Promotion of Relations Between the Federal Republic and the USSR.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1200 GMT on 24 February carries a short report on the meeting noting that "in the course of the conversation, questions concerning the development of cooperation between the Soviet Union and the FRG and also the problem of consolidating peace and international detente were touched on."]

## Goppel Tells About Talks

DW271023Y Moscow in German to Germany 1612 GMT 26 Feb 78 DW

[Interview with Bavarian Premier Alfons Goppel in Moscow--recorded]

[Text] On 24 February the head of the Soviet Government, Aleksey Kosygin, received in the Kremlin the premier of Bavaria, Mr Alfons Goppel, who visited Moscow for the purpose of opening the exhibition entitled: Bavaria--Its Land and People. Our reporter asked Mr Goppel to answer a few questions prior to his departure for home.

[Question] You conducted important talks in Moscow. Are you satisfied with the results?

[Answer] Yes, I am extremely satisfied, especially because I had a chance to talk with the premier. He was very openminded with respect to our problems of environment protection and our planned projects. He talked very emphatically about Russia's efforts toward peace in the world. Above all he was also interested in achieving balanced cooperative trade between the German and the Russian economies.

[Question] Mr Premier, the actual occasion for your visit to our capital was the opening of the exhibition entitled Bavaria--Its Land and People. What significance do you attribute to this exhibition and to similar actions in our country as well as in Bavaria?

[Answer] I see primarily a possibility to mutually deepen the knowledge about the country and the people and thus contribute to a better mutual understanding.

[Question] You are the representative of a great land of the Federal Republic. How do you assess the development of relations between the Federal Republic and the Soviet Union, and what prospects do you see for this course?

[Answer] The development at the moment is good and stable, and I think that is very important for both sides with a view to the mutual assessment. I hope that through strengthened and deepened economic and travel contacts, as well as through the continuation of the talks serving peace, our relations will reach a point where we can say that peace has been insured in Europe and in the world thanks to cooperation.

#### JOINT MANEUVERS WITH FRG SEEN THREATENING TO FRANCE

LD250644Y Moscow in French to Europe 1800 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

[Text] According to press releases by the FRG Defense Ministry, joint maneuvers of the Bundeswehr and the French Army, codenamed Fort-78, will take place on French territory in the region of Bordeaux-La Rochelle-Brest. The announcement, [words indistinct]. These will be the first (?large-scale) maneuvers of the Bundeswehr in France since General De Gaulle withdrew the French Armed Forces from NATO in 1966. Thus, Bundeswehr units are appearing once again on the soil that suffered cruelly from the Nazi invasions. It is not just a reminder of the deep wounds, of the dramas and the losses which German militarism (?inflicted on France). French patriots are seriously worried by the constant growth of the military potential of the Bundeswehr, whose [words indistinct] in a defense of Nazism and the former crusades of the Hitlerite troops in East and West.

In the course of these [word indistinct] the military budget of the FRG has doubled, and both in the volume of its military spending and in the power of its armed forces, the FRG has attained second position in NATO after the United States. But the Bundeswehr is not satisfied (?to stop at that.) (?The generals are aiming for the highest level) in ultra-modern offensive arms, including nuclear arms and cruise missiles. In this they have the total support of influential politicians of the CDU-CSU, notably of the president of the Bundestag Defense Committee, Woerner who has called on Washington to supply to the countries of Western Europe, that is to say to the FRG, the technology of cruise missile manufacturing. Woerner has said [word indistinct] he will himself take charge of the development and manufacture of this offensive weapon. The generals of the Bundeswehr and the rightwing politicians have pushed their militaristic ambitions to the point of openly infringing the (?treaty) forced upon West Germany after the defeat of Hitler's war machine.

This document of international law forbids it, among other things, to manufacture missiles, destroyers and submarines over the capacity limits set for the FRG. According to Westerr press, the West German OTRAG firm is currently developing and testing various types of missiles on a firing range in Zaire, including those capable of carrying nuclear warheads. These testings are even more dangerous since the West German generals do not dare to renounce their dream of supplying the Bundeswehr with nuclear arms and linking it in particular with the French strike force. [word indistinct] The reiterated attempts of Bonn to bring France into a closer cooperation with NATO's nuclear [word indistinct]. To achieve this it is using various means. It is trying in particular to induce France to transfer part of its nuclear forces to FRG territory, and thus by its intermediary to bring all the French Armed Forces [words indistinct].

Many Frenchmen, among them the former Prime Minister Michel Debre [words indistinct] by the recommendation of the parliamentary Assembly of the Western European Union held last December in Paris, according to which France must place its nuclear forces under the control of neighboring NATO states. The coming maneuvers of the Bundeswehr and the French forces in the Bordeaux-La Rochelle-Brest region are to be seen in the context of France's integration in the military mechanism of NATO.

#### POLLS SHOW LEFTWING PARTIES RUNNING STRONG IN FRANCE

LD241631Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 5 LD

[Correspondent L. Volodin report: "France: Election Marathon"]

[Text] Paris--The official election campaign for the parliamentary elections has opened in France. It will end on 12 March with the first round of voting. But in practice the election marathon began long ago and has become the epicenter of the country's whole life.

The parliamentary elections are arousing exceptionally high public interest. This is shown by the abundance and bitterness of election debates and statements in the press, the "poster battle" on city walls, and also the sharp increase in the number of French people entering their names on the list of voters. There are 5 million more of them than at the time of the 1974 presidential elections. This increase is explained not only by the lowering of the age qualifications for voters from 21 years to 18, but also by the fact that, as the newspaper LE FIGARO notes: "The importance of the forthcoming elections is making people remember their civic duty."

The French voters have already had time to form an impression of the contending party platforms. They are aware that the present elections involve something significantly more than the replacement of the ROQ National Assembly deputies. The question of the country's future depends on who comes out on top--representatives of the present majority which has been in power for almost 20 years, or candidates from parties of the leftwing opposition. In the opinion of most observers, the chances of victory for the leftwing forces (the Communist Party, the Socialist Party and the Left Radicals Movement) have never before been so great and so real as today.

The data from the dozens of public opinion polls held regularly in the country show the growth in the working people's dissatisfaction with the "austerity" policy, unending inflation, mass unemployment and deepening social inequality. The polls testify to the desire of broad circles of the population for democratic changes and to the strengthening of the leftwing forces influence.

Certainly public opinion polls are not a 100-percent objective criterion. At best they reflect the changes taking place in the voters' sentiments.

The coalition of ruling parties, the basis of which consists of the Gaullist Rally for the Republic and the Republican Party, trying to remain in power at any price, has launched its main propagandist volley against the positions of the leftwing parties--its main rivals. Its leaders are trying to convince the voters that a victory for the leftwing forces will be equivalent to a national catastrophe, since it will bring about economic ruin and political disorder. Voters are urged to "make the correct choice," that is, to vote for the present majority, which will certainly, it says, implement reforms, many of which were promised 5 years ago in the previous parliamentary elections.

The right camp's propaganda places special emphasis on the "danger" of communist participation in the government in the event of a leftwing success. This very prospect arouses fury among the big bourgeoisie and the reactionary press. Support for the coalition, albeit very clumsy support, has been officially given by Washington, which made a statement on the "undesirability" of communists forming part of the future government of France. Nor is NATO headquarters standing aside. Here a special commission has been set up to study the "consequences" of possible participation by communists in the governments of West European countries.

The workers of industrial "empires" and multimillion fortunes are making their contribution to the election campaign. The arena of their election struggle is not meetings, but financial manipulations concealed from the broad public. On the threshold of the elections French capitalists are sending their money abroad. According to Swiss bankers, French private investments in Switzerland alone have reached Fr100 billion. However, in the opinion of experts, they are in fact four times more or approximately equal to France's annual state budget. The bourgeoisie calculate that if the Left wins at the elections, their capital will be "secure," and if the Right retains the upper hand, the money can be brought back with a profit.

Such calculations are also applied to speculation on gold, the price of which has risen to a record level on the Paris stock exchange. The newspapers called January a "month of diamonds" in Paris. In that month jeweller's shops sold as many jewels as in the whole of last year. "And meanwhile," L'HUMANITE writes, "the main mass of French people are living in such a way that they can hardly balance the family budget at the end of each month."

The joint program of the leftwing forces, signed in 1972, received a broad response in the country. The working people support its provisions, concerning in particular the limitation of the power of monopolies, the nationalization of the main sectors of industry and financial and credit institutions, and the introduction of a tax on large fortunes. However, on the eve of the elections the atmosphere on the ranks of the leftwing forces has grown more complex. The communists' proposal on updating the joint program in accordance with the changes which have taken place in the country in recent years was rejected by the socialists and the left radicals. As a result in the first round of the voting the leftwing parties are each running their own candidates.

The other day at a mass meeting at Porte de Versailles G. Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party, stated that the participation of communist ministers in a government of leftwing forces is a necessary condition if such a government was to carry out a genuinely democratic policy.

ATHERTON SHUTTLE CONTINUES DESPITE ISRAELI INTRANSIGENCE

LD271546Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1230 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Alfred Atherton, assistant U.S. secretary of state, is holding the second round of the so-called mediation mission aimed at giving a new impetus to the separatist Egyptian-Israeli talks by the inclusion of other Arab countries in them, Jordan in particular.

However, Jordan has confirmed more than once that it rejects participation in the talks. Today, the American official discussed with Begin the Egyptian president's proposals which were outlined to Alfred Atherton in Ismailia. As usual, Cairo tries to project itself as a defender of the rights of all the Arabs, including the Palestinians. At the same time, the Egyptian propaganda continues to (?escalate) the anti-Palestinian hysteria aimed at undermining the PLO's leadership role in the struggle of the Palestinian Arab people for the realization of their usurped national rights.

The results of yesterday's meeting of the Israeli Cabinet, which discussed settlement in the occupied Arab territories, attract attention. The cabinet once again confirmed that Tel Aviv would maintain its military and civilian supervision not only on lands annexed from the Arabs but would also establish more settlements there. Thus, Tel Aviv confirmed to the Egyptian president that it did not even want to hear about the Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Egyptian land and other Arab territories.

What is more, Israel's attitude toward the Palestine problem remains unchanged. From all this it is clear that Tel Aviv is encouraged by President Carter's decision to export modern offensive weapons to Israel, and consequently Israel has hardened its attitude. In light of all this, the truth about Atherton's mission, who cannot be considered an honest broker because he is in fact pro-Israeli--becomes clear. Therefore, we find that an Israeli-American tactic is being prepared to allow Washington and Tel Aviv to force Cairo to make further concessions in the face of the insolent excesses.

Lower U.S. Priority

TA272047Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 27 Feb 78 TA

[Excerpt] The United States, which is presently trying to remove the bottleneck in the separate Israeli-Egyptian talks, has again been engaging in what is called shuttle diplomacy. Today, though, this is being done at the level of the U.S. assistant secretary of state, rather than by the secretary of state himself, as was formerly the case. Alfred Atherton, who is discharging this task, is shuttling between Cairo and Tel Aviv with the objective of advancing the separate deal between Egypt and Israel. However, contrary to the not so distant past, nobody is blowing bugles and no one foresees a simple and fast settlement.

## Syria Refuses Talks

LD272132Y Moscow TASS in English 2027 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Damascus, February 27, TASS--The stand of Syria on the ways of settling the Middle Eastern problem, says the Damascus newspaper TISHRIN, has not changed and will never change. It provides for the complete withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the occupied Arab territories and recognition of the lawful rights of the Arab people of Palestine. The leadership of the Arab Republic of Syria, the newspaper stresses, believes that the policy of the United States in the Middle East does not conform to the goals of establishing a just and lasting peace in this region of the globe. Thus, Syria sees no sense in the "shuttlecock" trips of A. Atherton, assistant secretary of state of the United States, between the capitals of the Middle Eastern states. This is why the leadership of the Arab Republic of Syria, the newspaper continues, refused to receive Atherton in Damascus.

This means that Syria has rejected for the second time the proposal to hold a Syrian-American meeting at a governmental level the newspaper says. It is common knowledge that the meeting of President H. al-Asad with President J. Carter during the latter's Middle Eastern tour this January did not materialize, too, the newspaper says in conclusion.

## ISRAELI CABINET VOTES TO CONTINUE SETTLEMENT POLICY

LD271604Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1258 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York--The U.S. press reports that the Israeli Cabinet announced on Sunday that it sees no reason to change its present policy on building settlements in occupied Arab territories.

This decision by Tel Aviv thus consolidates the former Israeli Government plan, which envisages an expansion of Israeli settlements in the northern part of the Sinai Peninsula and further "assimilation" of the West Bank of the Jordan. On the Sinai Peninsula Israeli bulldozers have already begun clearing the sites for eight new settlements. Ari'el Sharon, minister of agriculture, recently stated that it is hoped to add another 20 settlements to the almost 100 which already exist.

The rulers of Tel Aviv have once again confirmed their aspiration to consolidate their position in the occupied Arab lands. It is noteworthy that this is being done at a time when Alfred Atherton, U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, and David Owen, British foreign secretary, are in Israel. The presence of these high-ranking Western diplomat-mediators is not preventing the Israeli ruling circles from stating that they are not going to relinquish their expansionist schemes.

Continues Hard Line

LD272316Y Moscow TASS in English 2155 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 27, TASS--The Begin government has completed the discussion of the question of further settling Israelis on the Arab lands and passed a decision to continue the present policy of "developing" the occupied territories.

This policy, as known, provides for the creation of new militarized Israeli settlements on the Western Bank of the Jordan River, in the Gaza Strip and also in the Sinai Peninsula for the strengthening of the existing settlements there.

By adopting this decision, the Begin government has shown that it does not regard as serious Washington's "demarches" concerning the Israeli policy of colonising the occupied territories and, at the same time, has firmly notified Cairo that As-Sadat must abandon all hopes for the softening of Israel's stand in the question of Jewish settlements in the Arab lands.

This decision has once more confirmed the complete bankruptcy of the policy of As-Sadat, who started the separate negotiations with Begin in the hope that the United States would exert pressure on Israel.

London, February 27, TASS--A REUTER correspondent in Beirut analysed the consequences of As-Sadat's capitulatory course and of his attempts to conclude a separate agreement with Israel. He writes that one hundred days after President as-Sadat's trip to Jerusalem the Middle Eastern problem is just as far from being solved as it was before that, while the reputation of the Egyptian president has dropped even in the eyes of his old friends in the Arab world. As-Sadat has become the main subject of cartoons in the Beirut press after the abortive attempt to attack an aircraft at the Cyprus airport of Larnaca. The view is expressed here that the order to launch this operation was given in the attempt to boost As-Sadat's reputation, which quickly faded due to the lack of progress in the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

#### Sharon Confirms Sinai Policy

LD251604Y Moscow TASS in English 1426 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 25, TASS--Israel insists on the preservation of its militarized settlements in the occupied territory of the Sinai Peninsula. Even if this territory is returned to Egypt, militarized settlements will be preserved there, said Israeli Minister of Agriculture Sharon in his speech at the 29th Congress of the World Zionist Organization now underway in Jerusalem.

Trying to justify the annexationist plans of the Israeli Government, Sharon insisted that it is only Israel's presence in the Sinai Peninsula that "prevents Egypt's violation of the peace agreement." He made no secret that it is actually sought to preserve military control over the territory, which will be implemented by the Israeli Armed Forces under the pretext of giving protection to settlements.

The statement of Sharon who, as is known, is the chairman of the ministerial committee for settlements, reveals the real purposes of the Israeli policy in the Middle East. Taking the road of separate deals, Israel does not show the wish to pull out its troops from occupied Arab lands. Quite the contrary, it seeks to get entrenched in the occupied lands and to legalize the occupation.

This is also shown by the plan of creating new settlements in Arab lands that was submitted on Thursday by the Israeli Government to the Zionist Congress in Jerusalem. This plan envisages creating another 31 settlements on the Western Bank of the Jordan River, in the Gaza sector and in other occupied Arab lands. The total number of illegally created militarized Israeli settlements is now about one hundred.

## ZIONIST CONGRESS DISCUSSES AID, SETTLEMENTS, SUBVERSION

LD280803Y Moscow TASS in English 0710 GMT 28 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 28, TASS--The 29th Congress of the World Zionist Organisation was held the other day in Jerusalem unlawfully declared the "capital" of Israel, which annexed the Arab part of this city in 1967. The congress was attended by delegations of Zionists from almost 40 countries.

On the agenda of this "supreme body" of international Zionism were, in particular, such issues as the Middle East problem and issues pertaining to stepping up military-economic and political aid to Israel by the Zionist circles, organisations and funds.

It was precisely this aim of the "Jerusalem Congress", which was described as a top priority by Israeli Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan during his recent visit to the USA. He called on the American Zionists wielding considerable influence in the U.S. Congress to give full support to the annexationist line of the Begin cabinet, in order to "show the unity of the Zionist movement for the Arabs to see."

The "Congress" of the World Zionist Organisation also discussed as another top priority issue that of recommendations to set up another 57 Israeli settlements in the occupied lands in addition to more than one hundred settlements built in the captured Arab lands after the war of 1967.

Open and closed sessions of the "congress" also discussed the issues of struggle against the ideology and practices of world socialism, above all against the leading country of the socialist community--the USSR. It is not by mere chance that among the delegates to the "congress" were registered some "authorities" of anticommunism and anti-Sovietism from the USA, Canada, Britain, Belgium, the Netherlands and other states.

International Zionism appropriates billions of dollars on preparing and carrying out subversive operations against the USSR and other peace-loving and socialist states. Suffice it to say that the budget of the World Zionist Organisation with the headquarters and main centres in the USA and Israel alone reaches 700-800 million dollars annually. Two-thirds of it are spent on provocative actions of the type of the Zionist anti-Soviet assemblages in Brussels in 1971 and 1976 as well as all sorts of "symposia" with the participation of renegades expelled from the socialist countries.

The real aims of those who sponsored the "Congress" of the World Zionist Organisation are clear to international public: as Zionism has been stigmatised by the United Nations Organisation as a form of racialism and racial discrimination.

Peoples resolutely condemn the provocative manoeuvres of the Zionists as well as the Israeli aggression against the Arab countries and Tel Aviv's attempts at perpetuating the occupation of the Arab lands.

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F 5

USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS  
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

EGYPTIAN MEDIA LAUNCH CAMPAIGN AGAINST CYPRUS, PLC. USSR

LD271645Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Report by PRAVDA Correspondent A. Vasilyev under the general headline "Echo of the 'Larnaca Operation'"]

[Text] Cairo, 23 February--President as-Sadat has announced Egypt's severance of diplomatic relations with the Republic of Cyprus.

Today the capital's press is waging an anti-Cypriot and anti-Palestinian campaign, tinged with hysteria, in an attempt to make the Cypriots and Palestinians responsible for the failure of the ignominious adventure undertaken by the Egyptian "commandos" in Larnaca. Yesterday the funeral of the 15 Egyptian "commandos" killed as a result of the Egyptian authorities' adventurist actions turned into a demonstration at which there were premeditated appeals for "revenge" and cries of "down with Palestine!" The local papers are filled with overt threats against Cypriots and Palestinians. This campaign is interspersed with bitter anti-Soviet attacks.

LARNACA RAID ATTEMPT TO DIVERT ATTENTION FROM SEPARATE DEALS

LD271647Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent V. Drobkov under the general headline "Echo of the 'Larnaca Operation'"]

[Text] Nicosia, 23 February--In the Cypriot capital A. as-Sadat's statement on the severance of diplomatic relations between Egypt and Cyprus is described as a regrettable, hasty and ill-considered action. The paper FILELEVTHEROS points out in this connection that the Egyptian demarche has taken place at a time when the Cypriot side is making every effort to normalize relations.

The Cypriot press and representatives of political circles in the republic describe the Egyptian leadership's actions as an attempt to exacerbate relations between Cyprus and Egypt to the utmost and create a new seat of tension here in order to distract attention from the effective failure of its policy of separate deals with Israel.

You can tell whose interests this policy serves by the high praise of the Egyptian "commandos" attack in the Israeli press. The Jerusalem POST, for example, published an editorial article in this connection headlined "applauding Egypt." The article pursues the idea that the biggest danger to the Arab states and their political regimes is not Israel but the Palestinians. Similar materials appear in the newspapers YEDIOT AHARONOT and DAVAR.

The Cypriot public is also angered by the attempts by certain Western mass media to distort the truth about what happened at Larnaca Airport. Cypriot legal authorities have decided to bring action against the REUTER correspondent on Cyprus, charging him with transmitting false information about the events.

The Cyprus press points out that the events indicate that the good will of the Cyprus Government and its readiness to normalize relations with Egypt are encountering irresponsible measures on the part of the Egyptian regime which may produce serious consequences.

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FL6

MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

PALESTINIAN LEADERS CONDEMN AS-SADAT, PRAISE SOVIET UNION

LD271650Y Moscow TASS in English 1529 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

["Friendship With the USSR Is an Earnest of Success"--TASS headline]

[Text] Beirut, February 27, TASS--The present situation in the Middle East represents a serious danger not only to the Palestine resistance movement but also to the entire Arab national liberation movement, N. Hawatmah general secretary of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine said here at a public meeting on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the front.

The American imperialists and expansionists from Tel Aviv, using the Egyptian President as-Sadat as proponent of their interests and the reactionary Arab regimes, are trying to impose on the Arab states defeatist plans for a settlement of the conflict and to turn the Middle East into a fief of American-Zionist monopolies. The conspiracy against the Palestine revolution N. Hawatmah said, finds concrete expression in Lebanon where the USA, Israel and Arab reactionaries are trying to destroy the Palestine resistance movement, to weaken Palestinian-Syrian ties and to undermine the existing front of progressive Arab states and the PLO which are opposed to As-Sadat's capitulatory policy.

In these conditions, said the leader of the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, it is necessary for the Arab people of Palestine to continue strengthening ties of friendship with the countries of the socialist community with the Soviet Union at the head, countries which come out consistently for an all-embracing and just settlement of the Middle East crisis. Such a settlement should be based on total withdrawal of Israeli troops from all the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and implementation of the inalienable national rights of the Arab people of Palestine, including their right to self-determination and establishment of their own independent state.

Without the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, said 'Abd al-Jawad Salih, member of the PLO Executive Committee, at the meeting, the Arab nation will never be able to achieve a lasting and just peace in the Middle East. Therefore strengthening of relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Arab countries is a guarantee of success in the struggle of Arab peoples against imperialism, Zionism and internal reaction.

#### ADDITIONS TO DEPARTURE OF LIBYA'S JALLUD FROM MOSCOW

The following additions to the item entitled "Late Report: Jallud Grants Interview; Leaves Moscow" and subtitled "Departs Moscow," published in the 22 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page F 11, were taken from PRAVDA of 23 February: Page F 11, paragraph two, penultimate line should read: ...Soviet Vasily Kuznetsov, Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers I.V. Arkhipov, and other officials.

#### VARIATIONS TO SOVIET-LIBYAN COMMUNIQUE

The following variations to the item entitled "Soviet, Libyan Talks End, Joint Communique Issued" and subtitled "Libyan-Soviet Communique," published in the 21 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page F 3, were taken from IZVESTIYA of 21 February:

Page F 4, last paragraph, line four should read: ...ambassador to Libya, Yu. V. Filanov, assistant chairman of...

Page F 5, first paragraph, line four should read: ...racism and Zionism, which is the basis of the Arab and Jewish...

Page F 5, first paragraph, line five should read: ...and racial discrimination. He spoke of the recommendations and decisions of the extraordinary and the regular third session of the General People's Congress of the Libyan Jamahiriyyah regarding the implementation of direct democracy...

Page F 6, first paragraph, last line should read: ...Arab nation and their natural allies, the Soviet Union...

Page F 6, third paragraph, sixth line should read: ...their national state. There can be no resolution of the Palestinian question that violates the rights of the Arab people of Palestine. Both sides stressed...

Page F 6, insert after fifth paragraph: The sides condemned the racist regimes in southern Africa and also the plans and designs of imperialism aimed at defending its interests and undermining the positions of progressive forces in Africa and eliminating African liberation movements. They demand the adoption of decisive measures with the aim of politically and economically isolating the racist regimes of the African Continent and insuring a complete embargo on the supply of arms to them.

Page F 6, last paragraph, penultimate line should read: ...and neocolonialism to retard the economic development of the African...

Page F 7, first paragraph, second line should read: ...racist regimes in Israel and in southern Africa with the aim of striking blows at the liberation...

Page F 7, third paragraph should begin: The sides note the significance of the important contribution of the nonaligned countries, and...

#### ADDITIONS TO AL-ASAD DEPARTURE FROM MOSCOW

The following additions to the item entitled "Al-Asad Ends Moscow Visit, Departs for Damascus," published in the 25 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page F 1, were taken from PRAVDA of 24 February:

Page F 1, third paragraph, penultimate line should read: ...of the USSR, V.V. Kusnetsov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and G.M. Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister. The important guest was also seen off by B.Ye. Sarkisov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; I.V. Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; M.P. Georgadze, secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium; USSR Ministers V.V. Bakhirev, N.A. Maltsev and N.A. Shchelokov; S.A. Skachkov, chairman of the state committee for foreign economic relations; USSR Deputy Ministers Yu.G. Mamsyrov and N.V. Ogarkov; Yu.N. Chernyakov, USSR ambassador to Syria, and other officials.

#### VARIATIONS TO USSR-SYRIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE

The following variations to the item entitled "USSR-Syrian Joint Communique Issued After Al-Asad Visit," published in the 24 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page F 1, were taken from PRAVDA of 24 February: Page F 1, second paragraph, line ten should read: ...Syrian Arab Republic; 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, member of the Ba'th Party Command, deputy prime minister and Syrian foreign minister; Yusuf al-As'ad, Ba'th... Page F 1, fourth paragraph, penultimate line should read: ...the USSR-Syrian statement signed by Leonid... Page F 2, first paragraph, last line should read: ...Syria and its progressive development. Page F 4, fourth paragraph, first line should read: ...thanks for the warm reception and cordial hospitality he and members...

## WESTERN INCITEMENT NOT BORDERS BLAMED IN HORN CONFLICT

LD271301Y Minsk SOVETSKAYA BELORUSSIYA in Russian 17 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[B. Zhavoronkov commentary: "The Blazing Ogaden and Its Locality"]

[Text] There has been bloodshed for several months in the sands of Ethiopia's Ogaden desert. An undeclared war, involving thousands of people on both sides, is in progress. Ethiopian troops and people's militia are defending the northeast region of their country against aggression by Somali forces.

How did two independent African states, which today above all need peace for building a society without poverty and exploitation, become involved in armed conflict?

Ogaden is said to have oil resources. But the roots of the Somali-Ethiopian territorial dispute go immeasurably deeper, into the era of Italian-British colonialism. It was precisely the colonial vice regents who placed the boundary markers in the Horn of Africa, so that today the carefully sown seeds of conflict have sprouted.

However, that problem is typical not only of Somalia and Ethiopia but also of many other African states liberated from the colonial yoke. The continent could have become the arena for a dozen territorial wars if the OAU did not have a provision inscribed in its charter on the inviolability of inherited borders. That extremely important principle, later confirmed by many OAU assemblies, protects the territorial integrity of young African states.

Thus, the reasons for the armed conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia are to be found not so much in the contentious colonial legacy as in the instigatory role played by Western imperialist forces and Arab reaction in escalating the conflict.

A transplantation of the policy of "destabilization"--already tested by imperialism in Chile, in Angola and in Caribbean countries--to the Horn of Africa region is obviously under way. All its features are present. Economic blockade of Ethiopia is combined with the secret injection of funds from CIA coffers into the accounts of Ethiopian separatists and pogrom organizers. On the instructions of Washington, Western press has hastened to "explain" to the world how "inhuman" the regime of Mengistu Haile Mariam is and how Africa needs a new "sovereign state" of Ogaden. Western countries, as was noted in the TASS statement of 19 January 1978, "in unofficial contacts with the Somali leadership essentially encouraged it to initiate aggression."

The Somali leaders have failed an examination in state wisdom. Instead of rejecting the advice of Western "well-wishers" and working toward a peaceful settlement of the conflict via negotiations, they began open aggression against Ethiopia. The armed incursion of Somali forces into Ethiopian territory was accompanied by a noisy propaganda smoke-screen in the Western press. Slandorous fabrications concerning the participation of Soviet and Cuban troops in battles on the side of Somalia [as published: na storone Somali] were put about with particular energy.

But the aggressors' schemes collapsed. The Ethiopian people gave a deserved rebuff to the interventionists.

Suffering a defeat on the military front in the Ogaden, the Somali leaders, their Western patrons and the reactionary Arab regimes supporting Somalia immediately started talking about some kind of imagined "threat of invasion" of Somalia by Ethiopia.

Those forces do not disdain any kind of lies and are deliberately spreading slanderous assertions. One such statement was made recently by Egyptian President as-Sadat, who said that he is "concerned at Ethiopian plans to invade Somali territory."

The Ethiopian HERALD newspaper has exposed the hypocritical position of Western imperialist circles and the reactionary Arab regimes in respect to the conflict in the Horn of Africa. It is remarkable, the newspaper writes, that leading NATO countries have calmly observed the deaths of peaceful Ethiopian citizens at the hands of Somali aggressors and yet, now that superiority is beginning to shift to the other side, the same imperialist powers are expressing "concern" for the fate of peace in the Horn of Africa. In fact, the Ethiopian HERALD notes, that position, and especially the recent threats against Ethiopia made by U.S. Secretary of State C. Vance, are aimed at encouraging the aggressive war unleashed by the Somali leaders.

Ethiopia, the newspaper emphasizes, has no territorial claims on other states. However, it is quite obvious that a number of conditions must be fulfilled in order to restore peace in the Horn of Africa. The newspaper set out these conditions as follows: complete and unconditional withdrawal of Somali invading forces from Ethiopian territory (there can be no cease-fire until this happens); respect for internationally recognized borders; appropriate compensation for the damage caused by Somali aggression; and Somali renunciation of territorial claims, not only in Ethiopia and Kenya but also Djibouti.

In the stream of news on the situation in the Horn of Africa, a telegram from the Mogadiscio correspondent of the Paris newspaper LE MATIN stands out. The author reports the arrival in Somalia of fresh consignments of arms and military equipment manufactured in the United States, the FRG and Italy. The Somali Army has just received 50 American tanks and armored vehicles and carriers from Italian and West German firms, LE MATIN writes.

Thus, the process of adding fuel to the fire in the Horn of Africa and the West's cynical game in the North African tragedy are continuing. This provocative policy is countered by the courage of the people of Ethiopia, the efforts of all peace-loving states and their principled support of Ethiopia in its struggle for a just cause.

#### New Armed Groups Formed in Ethiopia

LD280946Y Moscow TASS in English 0748 GMT 28 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 28 TASS--Armed self-defence detachments are being formed at industrial enterprises, associations of urban dwellers and peasant associations in Ethiopia to protect the country's revolutionary gains.

Addressing working people who finished a course of military and political training, Kassaye Aragau, member of the Provisional Military Administrative Council of Ethiopia, stressed that hostile elements, who have not given up hope of restoring the old order continue to operate in the country. It is the task of the self-defence detachments, of the entire population, he said, to expose and liquidate the counter-revolutionary subversive groups that are in the service of forces of external reaction.

## Mieso-Afdam Railroad Reopens

LD271742Y Moscow TASS in English 1538 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 27, TASS--Railway traffic was resumed between the towns of Mieso and Afdam in the Ethiopian province of Hararge. This set the beginning to the resumption of traffic on the strategically important railway stretching from the Ethiopian capital to the east. The road put out of order by Somali troops when they launched the aggression against Ethiopia. During the meeting in Afdam, the working people confirmed the striving of the Ethiopian people for complete liberation of the motherland from foreign invaders.

## RHODESIA INTERNAL SETTLEMENT RETAINS RACIST ESSENCE

LD271649Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 3 LD

[V. Kudryavtsev article: "Antipopular Deal"]

[Text] An agreement between Ian Smith's racist regime and the three leaders of the splittist organizations--Muzorewa, Sithole and Chirau--on a so-called "internal settlement" has been concluded in the Rhodesian capital, Salisbury. To be more precise, it is a case of an internal reorganization of the racist regime, which retains its essence and merely somewhat "Africanizes" its facade.

The agreement provides for the creation of a parliament comprising 100 deputies of whom 28 will represent the white minority. Of these white deputies 20 will be elected by white voters and the remaining 8 by all voters. A "controlling" number of white deputies is created in the Rhodesian parliament without which not a single law can be adopted and the text of the constitution cannot be changed. The constitution, which is to guarantee political and economic privileges for the white minority, cannot, according to the agreement, be changed for at least 10 years. The agreement also provides for a bill on rights and for protection against the nationalization and confiscation of property and land. The safeguarding of the state is essentially entrusted to the present system of the state apparatus, police, armed forces and prisons.

In a word, the agreement leaves totally untouched the foundation of the present racist regime--the economic privileges of the white minority and the nucleus of the apparatus of social oppression.

The Anglo-U.S. ruling circles which are trying to impose on the Zimbabwe people their own plan aimed at turning Rhodesia into a puppet state are hypocritically criticizing the Salisbury deal. But it is precisely these circles which are dragging out by every means the solution of the question of the transfer of power in Rhodesia to the African majority by which they are promoting a so-called "internal settlement" on Smith's model. The position of Britain and the United States, it may easily be understood, is caused by fears of a possible outbreak of civil war in Rhodesia, since the only legitimate representative of the people of Zimbabwe--the Patriotic Front--rejects any antipopular deals and is continuing the armed struggle against the racist regime. The leaders of this front have stated authoritatively and categorically that the armed struggle will continue until Ian Smith's racist regime is overthrown.

The firm position of the Patriotic Front is supported by the "frontline states"--Mozambique, Tanzania, Zambia, Botswana and Angola. Zambian Foreign Minister Siteke Mwale has called the Salisbury agreement "an attempt to deceive the world." The courageous people of Zimbabwe have been guaranteed all-round support from the OAU and all progressive forces of the world, primarily the socialist states.

DESAI SAYS CHINA STILL OCCUPYING INDIAN TERRITORY

LD241659Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Delhi, 22 February--Speaking at a mass meeting in Hyderabad, Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai has declared that China is continuing to occupy about 15,000 square miles of Indian territory. India is striving to recover these lands through negotiations, by peaceful means, without resorting to war, he said.

The territories mentioned by the prime minister were seized by China in October-November 1962.

During the Janata Party government's short time in power, M. Desai said, India has improved its relations with neighboring states. By strengthening these neighborly relations, India is striving to achieve peace on Earth.

ARKHIPOV DELEGATION ARRIVES IN DELHI

LD252321Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2130 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A Soviet delegation led by Arkhirov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, has arrived in Delhi for the fourth session of the Intergovernmental Commission on Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation.

USSR, INDIA PREPARE FOR SECOND SPACE VENTURE

LD242004Y Moscow TASS in English 1911 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 24, TASS--"Preparations for the second joint Soviet-Indian experiment in outer space are well under way." This was stated by Nikolay Novikov, deputy chairman of the Interkosmos Council, one of the men in charge of the coming experiment. He was speaking to a TASS correspondent. The success is evident from the testing of the systems of the second Indian artificial Earth satellite in the Aryabata series. The satellite will be launched into orbit from Soviet territory and by a Soviet rocket. The testing at the space research centre in Bangalore where the new satellite was "born" is one of the final stages of the work. The launching is scheduled for the end of the year. The Aryabata-2 is a more sophisticated and improved space vehicle as compared with the first satellite. All of its systems have been renovated; flight control, onboard recorders, telemetry and others. The satellite will carry Soviet equipment, solar and chemical batteries, attitude controls, and on-board tape-recorders.

The research "bay" is to be fitted out with television cameras and microwave radio-telemetering equipment. All that predetermines the new, more complex functions of the second satellite. For six months it is to conduct meteorological, hydrological and oceanological studies to make it possible to forecast better the behavior of India's main rivers, the onset of monsoon rains, improve the prevention of forest fires, and carry out other important economic missions. "This is just the second step India is taking in the exploration of outer space. However, the friendly country has already achieved remarkable progress," said Nikolay Novikov. Ten-year-old cooperation between the scientists and engineers of the two countries has enabled Indian researchers to develop the second Aryabata satellite on their own; all of its components are being made at Indian enterprises. Indian scientists will also be directing the flight of the new space vehicle.

## NEW ZEALAND CONDEMNS EEC PROTECTIONIST POLICY

LD251642Y Moscow TASS in English 1450 GMT 25 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Canberra, February 25, TASS--The Common Market's protectionist policy stands in the way of marketing New Zealand's agricultural produce. This has been stated in Wellington by New Zealand's Prime Minister Robert Muldoon. The EEC countries practically closed fully their market for the New Zealand cheese and introduced additional restrictions on meat imports, he said.

These measures of the "Nine" are yet another blow on New Zealand's economy, with the export-oriented agriculture being its mainstay. Suffice it to say that export of such agricultural products as meat, butter and wool account for about 75 percent of New Zealand's currency earnings.

Yet until recently the bulk of New Zealand's commodities was exported to Britain, with guaranteed marketing. But after Britain joined the Common Market, the EEC partners demanded that the country should terminate purchases of agricultural products in New Zealand.

In search for new markets New Zealand tried to reorient her exports to Japan and the United States. But these countries also took measures to restrict imports of New Zealand's agricultural products. The protectionist policy of the traditional trade partners and the unfavourable situation in the world markets created major difficulties for New Zealand. Her external debt exceeds 304 times the currency reserves of the country. The deficit of the balance of payments ranges around 1,000 million dollars. The farmer bankruptcy process has intensified. Together with their families farmers leave their farms and go to town in search of work. There they face the problem of unemployment, which is now higher than ever in the whole post-war period.

## THAI-MALAYSIAN COMMUNIQUE REPORTED IN KUALA-LUMPUR

LD261804Y Moscow TASS in English 1442 GMT 26 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Kuala-Lumpur, February 26, TASS--A joint Malaysian-Thai communique on the results of a three-day visit to Malaysia by Thai Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan has been published here. It says, in part, that the two leaders discussed Malaysian-Thai relations and prospects for further cooperation between them, exchanged views on the region's problems and a number of other questions of mutual interest, including relations between the member-countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

SRV PREMIER DISCUSSES CONFLICT, TIES TO INDIA

LD261630Y Moscow TASS in English 1504 GMT 26 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Delhi, February 26 TASS--Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam Pham Van Dong said at a press conference here that Vietnam's principled stand concerning the events on the border between Vietnam and Kampuchea will undoubtedly bring about the establishment of friendly relations between the peoples of both countries. Vietnam declares for peaceful solution of this problem without any outside interference, he stressed.

Pham Van Dong refuted allegations of certain circles about participation of the Soviet Union and China in the Vietnamese-Kampuchean conflict.

Concerning his visit to India, Pham Van Dong said that its main purpose were talks on possible spheres of India's participation in restoration of Vietnam's economy. He said that the Indian Government agreed to grant to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam 300 thousand tons of wheat as a loan. It was decided to conclude several agreements on further development of bilateral cooperation. The Indian Government showed deep understanding of the situation in Vietnam and was grateful for this, Pham Van Dong said.

ARTICLE ALLEGES CONTINUED CAMBODIAN RAIDS, SLANDER

LD271627Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Text] Hanoi, 25 February TASS--An article entitled "The Words and Deeds of the Cambodian Authorities" published today by NHAN DAN stresses that Cambodia has been making armed raids on Vietnamese territory up to the present, while the Cambodian authorities continue to fuel a campaign of slander against Vietnam.

Phnom Penh Radio incessantly broadcasts false reports of violations of Cambodian territory, robberies and murders, and all this is attributed to the Vietnamese side, NHAN DAN writes. These are fabrications since this slander is totally refuted by the Cambodian position on the peace proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam [SRV]. These constructive proposals are wholeheartedly approved by the world's progressive public.

If the Cambodian authorities really want to establish friendly relations, the article continues, why do they not accept the SRV Government's proposal to sit down at the negotiating table and sign a treaty, provisions for which are contained in the SRV Government statement of 5 February? There can be no doubt that the real reason for this is that such a treaty contradicts the secret designs of the Cambodian authorities and those who support them. They do not want relations of equality, peace, friendship, neighborliness and mutual respect for sovereignty; they want a split and hostility.

It is the inalienable right of the Cambodian people to distinguish who is a friend and who is an enemy, NHAN DAN writes. We believe that the Cambodian people, who for many years stood shoulder to shoulder with the Vietnamese people and won a victory over the common enemy, will certainly be able to distinguish a true friend from an enemy. They will display greater wisdom than the present Cambodian authorities, who are pursuing adventurist aims.

## ROMANOV VISIT CONFIRMS SOVIET SUPPORT FOR SRV

OW252148Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1430 GMT 25 Feb 78 OW

[unattributed commentary]

[Text] It is regrettable that the tension in the border area between these two countries has not lessened but become more intense. The Cambodian Army still continues to shell Vietnamese cities and villages along the SRV border. On several occasions the SRV has proposed to Cambodia that they hold negotiations to resolve the border conflict, but the Phnom Penh administration still ignores the Vietnamese side's show of goodwill. It is obvious that the Cambodian government's warlike stand runs counter to the interests of the Vietnamese and Cambodian peoples as well to the interests of peace in Indochina and in all of Southeast Asia. It is also obvious that continued conflict only benefits those powers that want to keep the world situation tense.

The Bulgarian paper TRUD wrote: Outside powers are delighted by the Cambodian Government's adventurous policy and have encouraged it in carrying out this policy. These powers do not want a consolidated reunified SRV or want SRV's prestige to rise in the international area. An editorial recently released by the Voice of Vietnam stressed that in acting alone, the Cambodian Government would not dare to engage in this type of venture. Outside powers have helped it by equipping divisions with heavy artillery guns and aircraft of the type that Cambodia still did not have even in 1975 when it was liberated. Of course, all these actions are cause for concern. Therefore, broad segments of public opinion have expressed satisfaction with the SRV Government's highly constructive measures aimed at peacefully resolving at an early date the border dispute between Vietnam and Cambodia. Negotiations are the only way to eliminate the tense situation in the Vietnam-Cambodia border area. The Vietnamese Government has called on the Cambodian side to sit down at the negotiating table.

From the beginning, the Soviet Union has supported the Vietnamese Government's proposal on peacefully resolving the Indochina border conflict. The Soviet Union's stand was reaffirmed by the recent official visit to the SRV by a Soviet delegation headed by Comrade Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and first secretary of the Leningrad Oblast Party Committee.

## VNA REPORT ON CAMBODIAN SHELLING IN VIETNAM CITED

LD231958Y Moscow TASS in English 1932 GMT 23 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 23 TASS--From February 12 to 18, Kampuchean artillery continued shelling the southern provinces of Vietnam, causing casualties and material damage, the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY reports. What is more, Kampuchean troops thrust more than once up to five kilometres deep into Vietnamese territory.

The Armed Forces of Vietnam retaliated with a number of strikes putting out of action about 300 enemy soldiers and capturing great amounts of various arms and forcing the attackers to retreat to their territory.

RAUL CASTRO UNVEILS 'INTERNATIONALIST SOLDIER' MEMORIAL

LD250746Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 24 Feb 78 LD

[Text] On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the creation of the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union, a memorial complex in honor of the Soviet internationalist soldier was unveiled near Havana. A speech was made at the mass meeting by Raul Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, first vice president of the Council of State and first deputy chairman of the republic's Council of Ministers, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces. Raul Castro said in particular:

On behalf of the Communist Party of Cuba, the government and the entire Cuban people, allow me to congratulate all veterans of the Great Patriotic War, and personally Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, marshal of the Soviet Union, who recently was awarded the Order of Victory for his great contribution to the Soviet people's victory in the Great Patriotic War, for his outstanding merits in strengthening the country's defense capability and for the working out and consistent implementation of the peace-loving policy of the Soviet state.

VENEZUELAN CALLS FOR STRENGTHENING OF WORLD TU MOVEMENT

LD271528Y Moscow TASS in English 1447 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

["For the Unity of the Working People of the World"--TASS headline]

[Text] Caracas, February 27 TASS--TASS correspondent Mikhail Artyushenkov reports:

Member of the WFTU Bureau Cruz Villegas, chairman of the United Centre of the Workers of Venezuela, called for further consolidating the world trade union movement and strengthening the unity of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

Speaking in a TASS interview he noted that the WFTU plays a tremendous role in the international working class movement and in the struggle for the unity and interests of the working people. The WFTU unites a majority of the working people of the world. Its ranks are permanently growing. Ever new national trade union federations are joining the WFTU, the unity of actions and fraternal solidarity of the working people of the world is strengthening.

Cruz Villegas stressed that the ninth World Congress of Trade Unions scheduled in Prague for April this year is to examine international issues and draw up a common platform of joint struggle by the working people and trade union solidarity all over the world.

Now, the veteran of the international and Venezuelan working class movement went on to say, that the monopolies stepped up the offensive against the rights of the working people, a monolithic and even more united and strong WFTU is necessary as never before. There are objective conditions for it. The balance of forces in the world favours the development of the struggle of the working people and nations. This is above all due to the existence of the socialist countries, the disintegration of the colonialist system, the successes of the antiimperialist and national liberation movements.

The international working class, which established the WFTU in 1946, C. Villegas said in conclusion, has made a tremendous step forward in rallying its ranks. There is no doubt that the WFTU will further strengthen and rally the ranks of trade union federations even more closely.

## RASHIDOV ATTENDS CEREMONY IN TASHKENT, PRESENTS AWARDS

LD272214Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Today the city of Tashkent and Tashkent Oblast, victors in socialist competition, were awarded Challenge Red Banners of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee. This award crowns the selfless labor of the working people of the capital of Uzbekistan and its oblast in 1977. The people of Tashkent marked last year with good results. Overplan production was to a total value of over R150 million. Obligations to the state for sales of cotton, vegetables, fruit and animal husbandry products were overfulfilled.

To tempestuous applause from those taking part in the solemn meeting held in Tashkent today, the banners were presented by Comrade Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party.

## ROMANOV ADDRESSES AWARDS CEREMONY IN LENINGRAD

LD271945Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 27 Feb 78 LD

[Summary] Leningrad and Leningrad Oblast were today presented with the Challenge Red Banner of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee.

"Romanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom, addressed the participants at the meeting. He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee and to Comrade Brezhnev personally for his constant fatherly concern for the development of Leningrad and its oblast and deep gratitude to the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee for their high assessment of the labor of Leningrad.

"In the jubilee year, Comrade Romanov said, most labor collectives and rayons and towns in the oblast successfully fulfilled their pledges. Leningrad's industry has exceeded the control figures of the 5-year plan for the rate of growth of volume of production and productivity. Agricultural workers and construction workers have coped with their tasks. Much has been done in the solving of social tasks.

"Leningraders have decided to overfulfil the program for 1978 and for 3 years of the 5-year plan for volume of industrial production. The plan for growth of productivity is to be completed by the first anniversary of the adoption of the new USSR Constitution.

"At the meeting of the aktiv shortcomings were noted in the work of a number of enterprises and organizations; mention was made of primary tasks facing workers in the city and oblast in the third year of the 5-year plan.

"The meeting adopted a letter to the CPSU Central Committee and to Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium."

## RASHIDOV ADDRESSES UZBEK AKTIV ON CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

LD271429Y Tashkent PRAVDA VOSTOKA in Russian 15 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] UZTAQ--An Uzbekistan party-economic aktiv on capital construction was held on 14 February in Tashkent. Those invited to the conference included obkoms, gorkoms and raia first secretaries; leaders of the Karakalpakskaya ASSR Council of Ministers and oblispolkoms; personnel of trade union and Komsomol organizations and People's Control organs; chiefs of construction and installation trusts, ministries and departments, planning organizations and enterprises of the construction materials industry and the construction industry; leading workers and innovators of the construction production industry.

The conference was opened by Sh.R. Rashidov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Uzbekistan CP Central Committee.

A speech was delivered at the aktiv conference by Sh.R. Rashidov. He dwelled on the tasks of construction workers arising from the decisions of the 25th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) plenum and the instructions of Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The main point is to insure an increase in the efficiency of capital investments, speed up the commissioning and assimilation of new capacities in industry and agriculture and also surrender projects on time. It is necessary to use every means to strengthen the regime of thrift and insure the commissioning of projects with the least expenditure of labor, resources and materials and with all work at a high standard of quality.

Construction workers have everything they need to successfully fulfill plans and socialist pledges. It is important to skilfully utilize all potential and reserves and concentrate efforts and material and technical resources on projects nearing completion. Party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol organizations must elaborate and purposefully implement, jointly with construction project chiefs, a range of measures for promptly commissioning projects. Every construction collective must be known for smoothness and high quality of work. The experience of Nikolay Anatolyevich Zlobin, one of the country's distinguished construction workers, is of special significance. The method of his team, which was the first in the country to switch over to financial autonomy, deserves the widest dissemination. The experience of leading workers is the invaluable property of our socialist system and one of the sources of its strength. Our best construction workers adopted high pledges at the beginning of the 5-year plan. Party committees and economic chiefs, improving the leadership of capital construction, are obliged to take all steps to insure that leading experience is disseminated more fully and efficiently.

Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, addressing construction workers, said: "The motherland expects you to set examples of well organized labor and fulfill the plan targets with honor. How you work, comrades, will largely determine the fate of the entire 5-year plan. What is planned must be commissioned on time." Those words are a militant action program for all construction workers.

## BLOC COUNTRIES' MILITARY DELEGATIONS QUIT MOSCOW

LD271625Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[TASS report: "Departure of Military Delegations"]

[Text] The military delegations of the following socialist countries left Moscow 24 February: Bulgaria headed by Army General D. Dzheurov, member of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and Bulgarian minister of national defense; Hungary headed by Col Gen L. Czinege, member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee and Hungarian minister of defense; the GDR headed by Army General H. Hoffmann, member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany Central Committee Politburo and GDR minister of national defense; the Republic of Cuba headed by Division General S. Casas Regueiro, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, chief of general staff and first deputy minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; Mongolia headed by Army General B. Dorj, member of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee and Mongolian minister of defense; Poland headed by Army General W. Jaruzelski, member of the Polish United Workers Party Central Committee Politburo and Polish minister of national defense; Romania headed by Col Gen I. Coman, candidate member of the Romanian Communist Party Central Committee Political Executive Committee and Romanian minister of national defense; the CSSR headed by Army General M. Dzur, member of the Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee and CSSR minister of national defense, and Yugoslavia headed by Army General N. Ljubicic, member of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee Presidium and Yugoslav federal secretary for national defense. They had been in the USSR at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces.

At the airport the delegations were seen off by Marshals of the Soviet Union N.V. Ogarkov and V.G. Kulikov, USSR first deputy defense ministers; Army Generals V.F. Tolubko and I.G. Pavlovskiy, Chief Marshal P.S. Kutakhov, Admiral of the Fleet of the Soviet Union S.G. Gorshkov, Army General S.K. Kurkotkin and Col Gen Engr N.M. Alekseyev, USSR deputy defense ministers; Maj Gen G.A. Borisov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry External Relations Directorate, and other officials.

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